جوردان تايمز يومية النَيْهَ الشُّدَرُ بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية ،الراي،

#### **Qadhafi sees better ties with Bush**

NEW YORK (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi expects better relations with the Bush administration but he also accused U.S. forces of reactions with the basis administration but the last accused U.S. noves of machine-gunning two Libyan pilots shot down last week, a newspaper interview published Tuesday said. The interview, with USA Today conducted in Tripoli, quoted Qudhafi as saying Sunday he expected the White House under George Bush will be "very sane, very wise." "We should bury this silly and stupid policy with the previous (Reagan) administration," the Libyan leader was quoted as saying. "It is possible to have discussed by the large of the colored by the large of have dialogue. None of us is going to change the other's view by force."
U.S. carrier-based fighter planes shot down two Libyan MiGs over the Mediterranean Jan. 4 after the MiGs made what the U.S. Defence Department called threatening moves. The parachutes of the Libyan pilots were spotted afterwards, Discussing the episode, Qadhafi told USA Today: "We believe that once the pilots had parachuted to safety they were followed up and machine-gunned. This is the action of America." The Washington Post reported Tuesday that Pentagon officials acknowledge the U.S. pilots shot down the Libyan MiG-23's without waiting for a "red" last elleging them to first elegation. alert allowing them to fire at will.

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#### AROUND THE WORLD...

#### Howe fears Gulf ceasefire may collapse

DJIBOUTI (R) - British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe ended a tour of the Gulf Tuesday with a short visit to Diibouti, where he expressed concern over the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war. Howe, who arrived from the North Yemen capital of Sanna on the last leg of a seven state trip, is the first British minister to visit this state at the month of the Red Sea. Speaking to reporters about his 10-day trip, during which he conferred with several powerful Arah leaders, Howe said: "There is great relief at the Iran-Iraq ceasefire, but general concern at continuing stalemate and continuing fears that the situation may deteriorate."

#### Khomeini sees hardships for Iran

NICOSIA (R) - Spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini urged Iranians Tuesday to make sacrifices to preserve their independence and warned of foreign plots against the country. In a message read on Tehran Radio, Khomeini called on workers and industrialists to revive the economy but ruled out any early improvement in living standards depressed by eight years of war against Iraq. "The people should make their choice: Either welfare and consumerism, or hardship and independence. This could take several years, but the people will definitely choose the latter," Khomeini said.

#### Vietnamese-Thai talks conclude

HANOI (AP) - The Vietnamese and Thai foreign ministers said Tuesday they were satisfied with their talks on ways to end Vietnam's 10-year-old intervention in Kampuchea. "The two sides are moving closer... hut to say (there is) no more gap is not yet realistic because the gap is not yet solved by the Kampuchean parties," Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said, referring to the warring factions in Kampuchea. That Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila cautiously described his two days of meetings with Thach as "good."

#### Karabakh committee members face trial

YEREVAN (R) - Authorities in Soviet Armenia have announced plans to prosecute members of the Karabakh Committee, a group pressing for the transfer of the disputed Azerbaijani territory of Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia. Interior Minister Usik Arutyunyan told a news conference in the Armenian capital Yerevan Monday that charges would be brought against several members of the banned group under a law covering "participation in group disorders."

#### Iran breaks up opium ring

aned

NICOSIA (R) - Iranian police have arrested 46 members of a major drug ring who admitted to sauggling 52 tonnes of opium, Tehran Radio reported Tuesday. The radio, monitored in Cyprus, said the gang also sminggled weapons and had a record of armed robbery. It operated in eight of Iran's 24 provinces and its leaders had contacts with traffickers in the Gulf states, Pakistan and Afghanistan. The radio did not say over what period the ring smuggled the 52 tounes of opium. Total opium seized in the year ending last March 20 was 36.8 according to official Iranian figures.

#### Shevardnadze to visit Iran

NICOSIA (AP) - Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will visit Iran in the near future, Tehran Radio reported Monday. The broadcast said that Shevardnadze confirmed his visit in a meeting in Paris with his Iranian counterpart Ali Akhar Velayati. "At this time the ground has been laid for expanding relations between Tehran and Moscow," the radio quoted Shevardnadze as saying.

#### Italy steps up airports security

ROME (R) — Italy is stepping up security at airport to guard against extremist attacks, the Interior Ministry said Tuesday. It said airport security procedures were discussed at a meeting between Interior Minister Antonio Gava and Transport Minister Giorgio Santuz. Minister Gava gave an assurance that vigilance will be intensified and preventive measures will be reinforced" an Interior Ministry

#### Locust threat to continue till May

BAHRAIN (AP) - A locust plague threatening the countries of the Arabian peniusula could continue until May, a senior agricultural official warned. "A serious locust situation continues to exist, and there's a possibility from now till May that the locusts will hit from Africa through Saudi Arabia" to reach the other countries on the peninsula, Hassan Abdul Karim, director of farmer services of the Balarain Ministry of Agriculture, said Monday. Similar warnings were also made by the Qutari News Agency and the English-language Saudi newspaper Arab News.

#### France denies reports of Libyan jet deal

PARIS (AFP) — The French Defence Ministry Monday rejected a reported published Sunday by the British weekly Sunday Telegraph that the French government had recently negotiated to sign a secret agreement to sell to Libya Mirage 2000 jetfighters. It described the report as "a diversion with hostile intentions against France."

#### Israeli army says PLO halted attacks

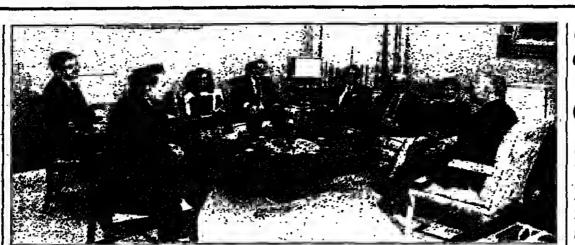
TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli army Chief of Staff General Dan Shomron said Tuesday that PLO fighters had not attacked Israel since November. However Shomron, speaking to parliament's foreign affairs and defence committee, said attempts by Arab commandos to "infiltrate" into Israel from Lebanon increased in the past year. Israeli legislators quoted Shomron as saying: "The organisations over which the Palestine Liberation Organisation has full control have not been active since November. Certain activities which they had begun in preparation for attacks on Israel were halted as far as we know. However, we do not know of any order from these organisations to

#### stop attacks on Israel." Mübarak may visit U.S., W. Germany soon

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosui Mubarak is expected to visit Washington and Bonn soon to campaign for an international Middle East peace conference and continued Western aid, diplomats said Tuesday. He would probably travel to the United States and West Germany in the first three months of the year and dates would be amounced later, they said. Egyptian officials refused to confirm the travel plans. But one said a visit to Washington to establish contact with the new Bush administration was not excluded.

#### Israel says 8 commandos killed

TEL AVIV (AP) - Israeli troops operating north of Israel's 'self-proclaimed "security zone" in southern Lebanon killed eight commundos, the army announced Tuesday. The clash was Saturday night west of the village of Aaramta, 18 kilometres north of the Israeli border, the army said. It gave no explanation for the delay in the 20 nonnecement. The military command said an Israeli force encounstered a squad of Lebanese guerrillas and opened fire, killing eight. It idid not say whether there were no Israeli casualties.



His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday confers with twn visiting U.S. senators (Petra photn)

### U.S. senators find 'fluid' Israeli situation on peace

By Salameh B. Ne'matt Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Two U.S. senators Tuesday described as "fluid" the political situation within the Israeli coalition government and said there was room for a step-bystep approach to solving the Middle East problem.

Republican senators Nancy Landon Kassebaum of Kansas and John McCain of Arizona, who arrived here Monday following talks with Israeli leaders, told the Jordan Times that the Israelis were floating proposals for a solution but that no specific initiative has yet evolved.

and reviewed the latest developments in the area and "expressed optimism that the international environment was conducive to the resolution of regional conflicts including the Middle East problem," the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

The King explained the implications of the Kingdom's administrative and legal disengagement from the West Bank, pointing out that the move helped enhance Jordan-PLO ties, Petra

He said the new Palestinian strategy was based on a greater

His Majesty King Hussein met awareness and readiness to shoulwith the senators later in the day der responsibilities with the aim of reaching a just and peaceful settlement.

> Kassebaum told the Jordan Times earlier she believes Jordan has an important role to play towards a solution of the Palestine question and that the Kingdom's disengagement from the occupied West Bank paved the way for the PLO to initiate the geace process and help the PLO take the necessary steps to contri-bute to the cause of peace.

> McCain lamented that the outcome of the Israeli general elections did not produce any specific (Continued on page 2)

### Shamir says he is willing to accept U.N. role in peace talks

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime the great powers or the United be convened attended by the five Minister Yitzhak Shamir Tuesday Nations, providing they refrain permanent members of the U.N. signathed for the first time that he from any involvement in the subwas willing to accept a United stance of the talks," Shamir said. an active role in negotiations. Nations role in peace negotiations, saying direct talks could be departure from Shamir's earlier ers or under U.N. auspices.

"Such negotiations can be

pected in Tunis to meet Dutch

officials and a British politician,

arrived unexpectedly in Cairo

The Palestine Liberation Orga-

nisation (PLO) chairman had an

airport meeting with a Council of

Enrope delegation touring the

Spanisb parliamentarian

Miguel Angel Martinez said the

council would invite parliamenta-

rians from Egypt, Jordan, Syria

and Israel and members of the

PLO to a European Parliamen-

"We are seeking first-hand in-

tary conference in May or June.

formation about the peace pro-

cess," he told reporters before

The delegation, representing 23 countries, met Egyptian Presi-

dent Hosni Mubarak Monday.

British Labour Party member Pe-

ter Harvey told reporters Mubar-ak personally asked Arafat to

shot to death in mysterious cir-

cumstances in the occupied West

Bank, and four other Palestinians

were reported shot and wounded

Tuesday in clashes with Israeli

Reports said Palestinian "col-

laborators" killed 27-year-old Kayed Muhammad Tmaizi Mon-

day night in the village of Idna

because he had stopped cooperat-

Troaizi was shot with three

bullets and died on the way to a

hospital in nearby Hebron, re-

Family members told a repor-

ter that Tmaizi was under in-

creasing pressure from Israeli

forces to renew his role as an

informant. They said he stopped

cooperating with Israeli officials

ing with them.

ports said.

come to Cairo to meet them.

Tuesday.

Middle East.

meeting Arafat.

Arafat, European

team discuss peace

CAIRO (Agencies) — Palesti-nian leader Yasser Arafat, ex-noon after Arafat failed to show

The statement represented a

initiated either by the superpow- opposition to U.N. involvement Shamir envisaged for the United Speaking to a visiting delega- contended U.N. participation tion of European Parliament would stack the deck against members, Shamir insisted talks be held directly with the Antibe held directly with the Arab other concessions" from the Parliament, Lord Plumb, warned Zionist state.

The Arab states have urged launched under the auspices of that an international conference

up there for two appointments.

while British politician Gerald

Kaufman went sightseeing to pass

the time until his expected

Earlier Tuesday, Arafat laid

the cornerstone of a Palestinian

embassy in Sanaa in the presence of North Yemeni President Ali

Later, be travelled to Aden

where he and South Yemen's

head of state, Haider Ahu Bakr

Al Attas, raised the flag over the

for an official visit Tuesday, a

Greek government spokesman

Athens for an official visit. He

will bave talks with Prime Minis-

ter Andreas Papandreou and Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias," Sotiris Kostopoulos

There bad been no advance

Tmaizi's relatives saw the

assailants flee and take refuge in

the home of another Idna man who is known as a collaborator, the reporter said. They said the

attackers were later picked up by

cars with Israeli licence plates.

The army clamped a curfew on Idna and took Tmaizi's body

from a hospital in nearby Hebron

in order to determine the cause of

death, a military official said.

lifted curfews from four refugee

and wounded in clashes in the

southern Gaza Strip and one was

wounded in a clash with troops in

the West Bank town of Ramal-

lah, reports and hospital officials

camps in the Gaza Strip.

Meanwhile Tuesday, the army

Three Palestinians were shot

Arafat was to arrive in Athens

"Arafat arrives today in

Abdullah Saleh.

PLO office there.

told reporters.

Two Dutch Foreign Ministry notice of the PLO leader's visit.

Palestinian killed, 4

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM when the uprising started 13

others wounded

(Agencies) — A Palestinian was months ago.

Security Council, who would play A spokesman for Shamir re-

fused to elaborate on what role

in the peace process. Shamir has Nations, but observers said it might be limited to providing a U.N. setting for talks. The president of the European

Israel Tuesday it faced increased violence and isolation unless it changed its attitude to the Palesti-In an address to the Israeli

parliament, Plumb spelled out in blunt terms the 12-nation European Economic Community's (EEC) belief in Palestinian self-. determination and urged Israel to test the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) modera-

"A perpetuation of existing policies holds out the prospect of escalating violence," he declared. "I know you have grave doubts about... the credibility of the PLO's new position. But the moment has come to put this posi-tion to the test," Plumb said. The alternative would be more

tion for Israel." Stressing that the EEC regard itself as a friend of Israel, Plumb said the 13-month-old uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip had focused world attention on the urgency and importance of solving the Palestinian problem.

of the same, and increasing isola-

"It is clear that without the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians there cannot be any prospect of a durable peace for any country in the region." he said.

In his speech, Shamir rejected the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as a negotiating

partner. Sbarnir also accused the EEC of a pro-Palestinian bias.

"There is now a pro-Palesti-nian trend in the EEC and European countries and it is inexplicable," Shamir's spokesman Avi Pazner quoted the prime minister as telling Lord Plumb at an earQasem addresses Paris conference

### 'Israeli nuclear threat causes chemical arms spread in Mideast'

PARIS (Petra) — Israel's possession of nuclear weapons was the reason for the spread of chemical weapons in the Middle East, Jordan said Tuesday.

Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem told a 140-nation Paris conference on banning chemical weapons that Israel — which does not admit having nuclear arms should sign the treaty and permit nspection of its capabilities,

The introduction of new weapons to our region is a consequence of Israel's possession of nuclear weapons and the ensuing sense of insecurity to all states and peoples in the region," Qasem said.

Following are major excerpts from Qasem's speech:

"Our meeting today aims at reaffirming the Geneva Protocol for the prohibition of the use in war of asphyxiating, poisonous or other gases and of bacteriological methods of warfare signed on 17 June, 1925.

"The need to reaffirm our commitment to that protocol is all the more greater in view of the fact that it is the only multilateral instrument that prohibits the use of chemical weapons. We should in this respect avoid selectivity and double-standards with regard to the violations of international

instruments in general and of the 1925 protocol in particular.

"My country, being one of the states party to the protocol, is gratified to recall its clear record in fully complying with its letter and spirit. We would like on this occasion to urge states that have not yet done so, to consider urgently, acceding to the pro-tocol. We would also like to laud progress achieved within the conference on disarmament in Geneva towards the elaboration of a convention on the prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of all chemical weapons and on their destruc-

"We would like to express the recent years in this field would treaty as a step on the path of treaty is to be successful as a comprehensive ban on chemical out the disarmament process. weapons, it is necessary to address the legitimate need of self-defence of any state that may



Marwan Al Qasem

become party thereto and which under threat, including the possibility of imposing effective sanctions against any state that may be the source of that threat.

"Jordan believes that, in accordance with what had alrehope that the efforts made during ady been agreed upon by the international community there is lead to an early conclusion of a need to implement disarmament measures in a fair and balanced ridding humanity from the threat manner that guarantees every of all weapons of mass destruc- state's right to security and avoids tion. It is our view that, if such a giving any state or group of states advantages over others through-The aim of every stage in this

(Continued on page 2)

#### Iraq reaffirms quest for peace BAGHDAD (Petra) - The vice- Islamic affairs, Mohammad Ali

chairman of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Conneil, Izzat Ibrahim, said Tuesday that Iraq had always sought to achieve peace with Iran since the outbreak of the Gulf war more than eight years ago, but Tehran had rejected all calls for peace and refused to respond to the various requests by Iraq to exchange prisoners of war (PoWs).

Addressing the second general conference of the Supreme Council of Islamic Affairs, held under the theme "Peace in Islam," Ibrahim pointed out that Iraq had renewed its calls for peace with Iran after every victory it achieved over Iran during the war and that Iraq had no territorial ambitions or aspirations whatsoever in Iranian territory.

Also addressing the conference were the Egyptian, Iraqi and

Mahjoub, Abdullah Fadel and Sheikh Abdul Wahah Abdul Wasi', respectively.

Mahjouh said differences distort its image. among Muslim countries beset Muslims throughout the world and contribute to serving the objectives of the enemies of the Muslim Nation. He highlighted the importance

of the conference, saying that it convenes at a time when the Muslim World "is witnessing signs of peace in different parts of the world." He pointed out to the end of

the Iran-Iraq war, the declaration of the Palestinian state, which be said bad crowned the Palestinian people's struggle, and peace between Libya and Chad and between Morocco and its neigh-

Abdullab Fadel called on Mus-Saudi ministers of Awqaf and lim countries to make every

change of PoWs between Iraq and Iran and for protecting Islam from all conspiracies designed to

Sheikh Abdul Wasi' stressed the need for ensuring peace for all Muslims and called for putting an end to fighting and disputes among Muslim countries.

The four-day conference discusses a number of research papers and studies focused on peace in Islam and the counter-currents and the role of the Islamic institutions in countering such currents and fending off their dangers.

Taking part in the conference are more than 300 Muslim scholars, intellectuals and ulamas, including Jordan's Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, who heads the Jordanian delegation to the con-

### Midlands crash investigators keep all possibilities open

LOUGHBOROUGH, England (Agencies) - Investigators of the from London to Belfast, crashed British airliner crash in which 44 which the pilot shut down before

Ed Trimble, an official of the Department of Transport's Air Accidents Investigation Branch (AAIB), said the flight recorders from the British Midland Airways Boeing 737 bad been examined and "we now have a fairly clear idea of what happened." He refused to elaborate.

Department of Transport spokesman Paul McKie said sabotage had been ruled out as the cause of Sunday night's crasb, Britain's second major air disaster in less than a month.

A bomb destroyed a Pan Am Boeing 747 over the Scottish border town of Lockerbie Dec. 21. killing 270 people.

near the M1 motorway 150 people died said Tuesday there kilometres north of the capital as was no sign of mechanical failure it tried to make an emergency or fire in the right-hand engine landing at East Midlands airport. Transport Minister Paul Channon said the pilot, who was

among the 82 survivors, had trou-

The 737, on a shuttle flight

ble with both engines during the Experts are centering their investigation on the performance of the jet's CFM-56 engines, built by the U.S.-hased General Electric

Company (GE) and Snecma of "There is evidence at the moment of mechanical failure to the

right engine," Trimble told reporters. He said there was no fire damage to the right engine but investigators were keeping all options open.

William Tench, retired head of the AAIB, suggested the crash may have been caused by a "technical mistake such as something incorrect being done to the engines during turnaround (serving between flights), either inadver-tently or deliberately."

Accounts by Hunt and other

survivors are expected to help

investigators determine what caused the crash. Many survivors were well enough Monday to describe the last minutes of Flight BD92.

Leicestershire police said 78 survivors were still hospitalised Tuesday. Thirteen were in intensive care units. Hunt, 43, a 22-year veteran

with the airline, remained in poor condition with spine and leg fractures. But hospital officials said he had been able to speak with hìs wife.

The Department of Transport said results of tests on the cockpit voice recorder and the digital flight data recorder were not expected for several days.

#### **Moscow takes first step** towards new parliament

MOSCOW (Agencies) - The Communist Party Central Committee Tuesday nominated candidates for seats reserved for the party in the new Soviet parliament planned as the centrepiece of Mikhail Gorbachev's political

The list of candidates for 100 seats in the new 2,250-member Congress of People's Deputies was drawn up at a plenum of the Central Committee, the party's policy-making body, TASS news

agency said. The deputies will be elected March 15 and 16 in an expanded plenary session of the Central Committee's voting and non-voting members and top party officials from the Soviet republics, TASS said.

The report did not say how many people were on the list of nominees, nor did it give any of their names.

The current Supreme Soviet has 1,500 members.

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Amal militiamen upen beavy machinegun fire at Hizbollah positions at Kfar Hata village in South

### Amal-Hizbollah battles ebb amid fresh peace moves

BEIRUT (Agencies) - Fierce fighting gave way to sporadic exchanges if gunfire Tuesday as tival militias battled for control of mountain villages in southern Lebanon.

Villagers said at least 15,000 people had fled their homes for safety in cold, overcast weather as Iran labelled the battles a disaster and Tehran and Damascus sought to reconcile the war-

Sources in the Amal militia said the battles with artillery, mortars and heavy machineguns died down after Amal captured 90 per cent of the Iqlim Al Tufah area from the Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God).

An Amal spokesman said Monday night the militia took the village of Jubah after a threepronged attack under heavy artil-

But police said Hizbollah Tuesday beat off a tank-led assault by Amal who outnumbered them

A police spokesman said Amal fighters stormed positions held by Hizbollah fighters in Jubah behind a barrage of artillery and mortar fire.

The 1,000 Amal militiamen, spearheaded by T-54 battle tanks. launched their assault after two days of savage fighting for control of the region near Israel's selfdesignated "security zone" along Hafez Al Assad met Iranian De-

Lebanon's southern border. But police said the estimated 500 Hizbollah fighters, cornered in a triangular-shaped redoubt after being driven out of several strategic villages Monday, later counter-attacked and pushed

Amal out of the hilltop village. Amal "is currently launching another, attack," the spokesman Jubah, 16 kilometres southeast

of the port city of Sidon, is the key to the Hizbollah-held sector. At least 65 people have died this year in the struggle between Amal and Hizbollah for control of Lebanon's Shi'ites.

There was no accurate casualty count from the latest fighting, which erupted 10 days ago after clashes in Beirut's southern suhurbs, a bastion of pro-Iranian

The independent Al Nahar newspaper quoted Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati as saying the fighting between the two groups was a disaster and that Iran and Syria were working to reconcile them.

Security sources said Hizbollah's presence in the battle area of southern Lebanon was limited to a few positions at 'Ain Buswar, Louwaizeb and Jbal Safi on the

edge of the "security zone."
In Damascus, Syrian President

puty Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati to discuss

The second secon

the fighting in South Lebanon. Iranian sources in Damascus said Besharati, who arrived Monday night, was carrying a letter from Iranian President Ali Khamenei to Assad believed to be about the fighting.

The sources said Iran and Syria were seeking ways to reconcile Amal and Hizbollah and that Besharati was expected to visit Lebanon Tuesday or Wednesday.

The Iranian news agency said Monday Besharati had a message from the Iranian president for Hizbollah and Amal and would hold talks with the groups' leaders in Lebanon.

Mahmoud Hashemi Rafsanjani, an Iranian Foreign Ministry official, returned to Damascus late Monday from a day of talks with Lebanese Shi'ite leaders to brief Besharati, sources reported. The bloodletting has deepened long-bitter hostilities between the

rival factions. Hizbollah seeks to create an

Iranian-style Islamic republe in The more secular, nationalist

Amal rejects Tehran's influence and advocates a multi-sect government in which Muslims have an equal share of power with Lebanon's traditionally dominant Christians.

#### "Israeli threat causes-chemical arms spread"

(Continued from page 1) possible level of weapons and of armed forces.'

"We believe it imperative that there should be faithful adherence to what was accepted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in its 10th special session on disarmament namely that there should be a careful balance of responsibilities and nutual obligations among nuclear states and non-nuclear ones."

"We are particularly aware of this vital consideration since we

and a chemical one. Our concerns are all the more real in view of Israel's refusal to become party to the Non-Proliferation Treaty or to accept international verification of its nuclear capabilities. Serious efforts to make the Middle East a nuclear free zone had been made, hut Israel's position constitutes an obstacle to that

"The most effective way to bring about an end to the armed race in the Middle East consists in

live in a region constantly reaching a peaceful solution to process should be undiminished threatened by the fact that Israel the Arab-Israeli conflict and its security on the basis of the lowest possess both a nuclear arsenal core the Palestinian question through an international peace conference, and in converting the ceasefire between Iraq and Iran into a state of comprehensive and durable peace.'

> "We hope that this would lead to the region becoming a zone free from all weapons of mass destruction in a manner that guarantees undiminished security for states in the region and strengthens international peace and security.

#### U.S. senators find 'fluid' Israeli situation

(Continued from page 1). response vis-a-vis Palestinian and other peace initiatives. However, he added, "we were assured by the prime minister (Shamir) that Israel will propose new initiatives to further the peace process."

The two senators, who held talks with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Monday, agreed that the new administration of Presidentelect George Bush was more likely to continue to build on the initiatives of the present administration on the basic issues.

Kassebaum, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, described Bush as a friend of the King and that personal familiarity between the two leaders was conducive to a better understanding of the outstanding

Commenting on U.S. threats to bomb a Libyan plant in Rabta. which Washington claims has the capability to produce chemical

weapons. McCain. a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said a military option should not be ruled out if all other means to contain the alleged threat were exhausted.

Lihya denies the U.S. claim and has called for an international inspection of the plant provided other countries are also subject to similar inspection.

Kassebaum said she was "disappointed" with attempts to "divert the attention from chemical weapons to nuclear weapons' during an international conference held in Paris. McCain agreed that diverting attention from efforts to ban chemical weapons will not help the ongoing effort to achieve progress in that area. McCain asserted that "Amer-

icans are frustrated" with the alleged assistance provided by West Germany for building what the U.S. claims is a chemical

weapons factory. The Senator said that he and his colleagues saw facts showing West German involvement hut refused to reveal the source of his information. He said Washington was trying to convince West Germany to halt

its involvement. The two senators left Amman later in the day after meeting with Armed Forces Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb. Petra said they discussed "the military situation in the region and ways of cooperation between the two countries and issues of mutual con-They are scheduled to hold similar meetings in Syria and

Also Tuesday, the King, Rifai and Information Minister Hani Khasawneh held talks with a visiting three-member congressional delegation during which they also discussed the Middle East situation and the latest developments

# Soviets may not meet Afghan deadline

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Kremlin's top envoy to Afghanistan said Tuesday there was "a serious danger" the Soviets would not resume their troop pullout in time to meet a U.N.-brokered Feb. 15. deadline for total withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan.

Kabul, blamed the United States and hard-line elements among the Afghan insurgents for a deteriorating situation in the

sov, who recently met with leaders of the Afghan rebel groups want to see a broad-based gov-

Vorontsov also told reporters that U.S. arms were still shipped clear.

Yuli M. Vorontsov, the to the Mujahedeen and that the Soviets' first deputy foreign American government had not minister and ambassador to given "any indication of its genuine desire to work for an Afghan settlement.

Asked if the Soviet Union might delay or suspend the withdrawal of the 50,000 troops it still "The opposition says it wants has in Afghanistan, Vorontsov to topple the current government in Kabul militarily." said Voront- Things might shape up in such a way that the Soviet Union will be unable to do what we'd decided in Iran and Pakistan. "They don't to do as a matter of principle."

Vorontsov would not specify a timetable for Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan until at a government news briefing, the intentions of the rebels were

"It is too early to talk about a schedule. We have to see how things shape up," Vorontsov

Under accords mediated by the United Nations in Geneva last April all Soviet troops must be out by Feb. 15.

Vorontsov said his talks with Afghan rebel leaders showed it "quite possible to come to a political settlement provided there is a reasonable approach on both sides to allow all representarives to take part on an equal

But he said a broad-based government could be formed in Afghanistan only when bloodshed had ceased and peace had been restored. The rebels broke off talks with

Vorontsov Monday, saying they would not meet Kremlin negotiators again until all Soviet troops had pulled out.

The talks stumbled over the

question of the composition of a government in Kabul after Moscow withdraws its troops.

Vorontsoy said Moscow would continue to support the ruling People's Democranic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), but the rebels insist that the current government, headed by President Najibullah, must fall.

Sibgatullah Mojaddidi, current chairman of a loose alliance of seven guerrilla parties based in Pakistan, told a news conference Monday that the deadlocked talks were over unless the Kremlin distanced itself from the

"The Soviets' efforts to impose a government of their choice on the Afghan nation will protract the war and kill our people." said Mojaddidi of the moderate Afghan National Liberation

Although the rebels won't agree to a joint government with the communists, Mojaddidi said

that if the ruling party member repent: We shall give ther amnesty. We shall accept them We shall not kill them."

Vorontsov told Tuesday's new conference Soviet and Afgha government troops had not take any offensive action since Jan.

and would continue this policy But he said Afgban rebels ha not followed that example, there by preventing a settlement.
"The opposition bears full re

sponsibility for impeding th movement towards a settle ment." be said.

Half of the 105,000 Sovie troops left by mid-August. I November, Soviet official announced that they were sus pending the second stage of th withdrawal because the militar situation had worsened.

Hitherto Soviet officials have said in all public statements tha they intend to observe the Gene

#### MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

#### U.N. envoy begins Sahara mission

GENEVA (R) - A U.N. envoy chosen to oversee a peace plan for the Western Sahara began his first tour of the region Tuesday after talks between Morocco's King Hassan and Polisatio guerrillas last week brought the war over the disputed territory closer to an end. Hector Gros Espiell, a Uruguayan diplomat, flew to Marrakesh to discuss with King Hassan a United Nations proposal for a referendum giving the inhabitants of Western Sabara a choice between integration with Morocco or independence. Diplomats said King Hassan's meeting with Polisario guerrillas last week their first direct contact in 13 years of war - removed the main obstacle to a rapid agreement on details of the referendum. Gros Espiell's 12-day tour will also include visits to La avoun, the capital of the disputed territory, and to Nouakchott, the capital of Mauritania, which renounced all claims to the southern part of the Western Sahara in 1979. From there he will travel to the Algerian border town of Tindouf, where Polisario guerrillas have their headquarters, to meet their leader. Mohammad Abdul Aziz, Gros Espiell will confer with Algerian leaders in Algiers.

#### Tunis appoints activist in government

TUNIS (R) — The Tunisian government has appointed one of the country's most prominent Islamic militants to the Supreme Islamic Council, a government body which supervises mosques and Islamic education. Sheikh Abdul Fattah Mourou, secretary-general of the Islamic Tendency Movement (MTI), was among 11 new members named to an expanded council Monday, the Tunis press said Tuesday. Mourou returned to Tunis from exile in September. In 1987, under former President Habib Bourguiba, he was sentenced to 10 year's hard labour on treason charges. He is joining the council only as an individual but political sources said the choice was the first sign in months that the government still intends to integrate Tunisia's Islamic movement into the political main-

#### **UNIFIL** sends aid to Armenia

TYRE (AP) - Troops serving with the United Nations peacekeeping force in South Lebanon have donated \$6,000 to the victims of in Armenia that killed tens of a U.N. communique said Monday. Major-Gen. Lars-Eric Wahlgren, commander of the 5,800-man U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), handed the check to Soviet ambassador Vassili Kolotosha in Beirut, the communique said. UNIFIL is made up of troops from France, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Nepal. Ghana, Fiji and Senegal.

#### Chad reportedly grabs Libyan prisoner

KHARTOUM (AP) - Newspapers reported Tuesday that Chadian agents stormed the Sudanese embassy in N'djamena and seized a Libyan prisoner of war who bad escaped detention and sought political asylum in Sudan. The newspapers said acting Foreign Minister Hassan Turabi and Defence Minister Abdul Maguid Khalil were visiting Chad's capital at the time. Chadian President Hissene Habre apologised to the delegation, the papers said. One, the semi-weekly Al Adwa, said the apology specified that the abductors were Habre's "security men." There was no comment from the Sudanese government, but the three indepen-dent newspapers that reported the story said Khartoum was not satisfied with Habre's apology. They said Chad was sending envoys with an official apology demanded by the Sudanese. In addition to Al Adwa, the dailies Al Usbu and Al Khartoum reported similar versions of the incident, which they said occurred last Tuesday.

#### Greek magistrate wounded in attack

ATHENS (AP) - A leading: Athens investigating magistrate was shot and wounded by unknown assailants Tuesday as he left his home for work, police said. Constantinos Androulidakis, a magistrate who is known for his tough stand against extremists, was shot in the arm and leg by three men who fled in a stolen car. The getaway car also with stolen license plates, was later abandoned near the scene of the shooting, police said. Androulidakis was taken to hospital where officials said he was not in critical condition. No group took responsibility for the attack on Androuli-dakis at 8:10 a.m. (0610 GMT) as he stepped out of his apartment house located in the Zographos area of the capital, police said. Police believe the shooting was politically inspired and that Androulidakis' assailants only wounded him in an attempt to intimidate other investigating magistrates.

### White House: No need for direct talks

### Qadhafi vows to retaliate if U.S. attacks Rabta plant

LONDON (Agencies) - Libyan incident was a prelude to a largerleader Muammar Qadhafi has vowed to retaliate if the United States attacks a factory southwest of Tripoli which Washington claims is designed to make chemical weapons.

In a speech broadcast by Libyan radio, Colonel Qadhafi said the factory at Rabta was for making pharmaceuticals.

"We built a factory for medicines." he said in the speech, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation. "They said this constitutes dan-

ger. America with all its greatness said, I want to destroy this factory. Why? "Because it is a factory that

constitutes a danger. Even the factories which make atom bombs are a cause of danger and so we should destroy them. And this factory we should get ready to destroy anything American which we can reach.' U.S. President Ronald Reagan

says he does not rule out the option of a military strike against the plant, about 96 kilometres southwest of Tripoli. Last Wednesday, U.S. fighters

shot down two Libyan jets over the Mediterranean in what U.S. officials said was an act of selfdefence unrelated to the Rabta

Libya says its planes were attacked during an unarmed reconnaissance mission and said the nons. And so we feel there's no

scale U.S. attack.

In Cairo, Egypt, Libyan dissident leader Mohammad Yousef Magariaf said in an interview Monday that his group needs U.S. help to overthrow Qadhafi, but advised Washington that bombing Libyan targets would be the wrong kind of help.

Magatiaf, secretary-general of the National Front for the Salvation of Libva. denied an unattributed report in the London-based newsletter Africa Confidential that the front was being trained militarily hy U.S. and Israeli experts in Chad, Cameroun and other African countries.

The front is considered the most powerful of anti-Qadhafi groups, with the most followers force, threats, aircraft carriers inside Libya.

In Washington, Pentagon spokesman Fred Hoffman would not comment on the Africa Confidential report. Another ranking U.S. defence official, speaking anonymously, denied the Defence Department was involved but said he could not speak for the Central Intelligence: Agency. The White House said Monday

with Qadhafi about U.S.-Libyan gested "We don't bave a problem with communications with Qadhafi. We have a problem with his ac-

it saw no need for direct talks

need for direct discussions." White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters.

"What there is a need for is for them to destroy that plant and to improve their international responsibility," Fitzwater added. Oadhafi, in a surprise meeting with reporters in Tripoli Satur day, invited the incoming Bush administration to hold direct talks

on U.S.-Libyan ties. Qadbafi also said Libya supported worldwide inspection of arms factories.

The Bush administration must sit face to face with Libya so that we can agree on the issues in dispute," be said. Qadhafi said Washington should have learned "a policy of

and siege." would not work with Libya and that the only way was goodwill and negotiation. Meanwhile, a company based in West Germany bas been

cleared of involvement in the

outfitting of the alleged chemical

weapons plant in Libya, a Bonn Finance Ministry spokesman Spokesman Walter Prax said the Hamburg-based Pen Tsao medical material company, a subsidiary of Pen Tsao m Hong

3 through Jan. 7. "There is no evidence they are connected in the Libyan affair." he said.

Hamburg-stale officials from Jan.

# Bhutto in S. Arabia

RIYADH (R) - Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bbutto arrived in Jeddah Tuesday for a pilgrimage to the holy cities of

Mecca and Medina. It is her first trip abroad since taking office last month, when she became the first woman to lead an Islamic state.

Diplomats said Bhutto, 35, was taken to the guest palace on arrival and was scheduled to hold meetings with local Pakistan People's Party (PPP) members before travelling to Mecca in the evening to perform Umra, or minor pilgrimage.

Pakistani embassy officials said the two-day visit was purely private and religious but diplomats expected her to visit Saudi Arabia's eastern province to meet King Fahd. In a statement before her de-

parture. Bhutto said the trip was to submit my humble self before the Creator to seek his forgiveness for shortcomings and blessings for the people of Pakistan." Pakistan has close relations with Saudi Arabia, and Bbutto said her government wanted them to grow 'with greater enthusiasm, vigour and singularity of purpose.

to perform pilgrimage

She is accompanied by her husband Asif Ali Zardari and about 60 political activists, most of them jailed or flogged under the 11-year-rule of President Mohammed Zia Ul Haq - killed in a plane crash last August. Relatives of some people

banged during Zia's rule were also with Bhutto. "Our delegation... consists of

poor families who faced untold hardsbips and gave supreme sacrifices for the solidarity of our nation, for its progress through democracy and for restoring rights to our people." Bhutto

We are here to perform Umra to thank the Almighty for blessing our struggle." Bhutto performed Umra in

1986 on ber way home from exile in London to lead a campaign against Zia



Benazir Bhutto

Daughter of executed Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Benazir Bhutto said after taking office Dec. 2 she would make the pilgrimage before going on an official foreign tour.

# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

#### PROGRAMME ONE Koran Programme review Children's programmes ..... Programme on plants uro news message .... Arabic series Local programme Common mistakes 19:30 Programme review News in Arabic .. Arabic series 21:30

22:40

23:10

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

... Wrestling Varieties programme
News summary in Arabic St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annual Church of the Annual Church of the Annual Church ..... Champs Elysees ..... News in French anta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Annunciation Tel.

20:00 20:30

11.43

Aujourd' hui en Jordanie ... News in Hebrew News in Arabic Don't wait up ..... News in English
.. Shadow on the Sun PRAYER TIMES

..... Maghreb CHURCHES

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. of the Annunciation Tel De la Saile Church Tel. 661757

Church Tel. 625383, Tel. Anglican 628543 Catholic Church Tel. Armeelan Orthodex Church Tel. 778261. in Church Tet. 771751. Amman International Church Tcl. 685326.

elical Lutheran Church Tel:

WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of

Rainbow Congregation Tel. 822605. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-

Salots Tel. 815817, 821264

Evange 811295.

It will be partly cloudy and relatively cold with a chance for scattered showers. Winds will be southwesterly mod erate to fresh. In Aqaba, it will be

Min./max. tem ..... 10/17 Jordan Valley ....

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 2, Aqaba 17, Humidity readings: Amman 70 per cent, Aqaba 85 per **USEFUL TELEPHONE** NUMBERS

AMMAN:

**NIGHT DUTY** Dr. Arafai Al Ashhah 602507 Al Asema pharmacy

Nairoukh pharmacy Al Salam pharmacy Yacouh pharmacy Shmeisani pharmacy . 636730 . 64494S . 637660 IRBID: Dr. Fiddiyya Jobour Al Sharaa' pharmacy ZARQA: n Taha ... **EMERGENCIES** 

.. 651111 630341 Rescue... Civil Defence Ense Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777 622090//93 775121 ..... 843402 Highway Police Traffic Police ... . 656390/9t Public Security Departmen . 656000 / 68511t Hotel Complaints

661176 Water and Sewerage Complaints...... Amman Municipality 787111 Telephone Informatio . 623101 Abdali Telephone Repairs 774tt1 Jordan Electricity Authority ... 815615 Electric Power 

Price Complaints

HOSPITALS

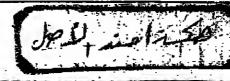
AMMAN: Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ... 644281/6 Akilch Maternity, J. Amn.... 642441/2 Jahal Amman Maternity...... 642362

Malhas, J. Amman Palestine, Shmeisani Shmeisani Hospital University Hospital Al-Muasher Hospital The Islamic, Abdali . 845B49 Al-Ahli, Abdali Ittalian, Al-Muhajreen Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich Army, Marka Queen Alia Hospital 664164/6 Amai Hospital ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital
Zarqa National Flospital
Ibe Sina Hospital --.. 674t55 IRBID: Princess Basma Hospital Greek Catholic Hospital Ibn Al Nafees Hospital.... .. (02)275555 (02)272275 ... (02)247100 AQABA: Princess Haya Hospital .... (03)314113

MARKET PRICES

Upperlower price in file per kg.

Banana 350 / 300 Banana (Mukammar) 300 / 250 Beans 550 / 460 Broad beans 750 / 550 310 / 250 340 / 508 346 / 300 256 / 300 490 / 150



### Jordan calls for ensuring free education for Palestinians under Israeli occupation

GENEVA (Petra) — Jordan has urged an international conference on education in Geneva would ensure the right of Palestinian people to free education and to condemn Israel's racist policies carried out against the Palestinian people-under its rale.

"Israel has been depriving Palestinian children of education after depriving them of the right to live in peace in their own homeland. And it insists on rejecting peace bids designed to bring about security and stability to the whole Middle East region through an international peace conference," Depurty Prime Minister and Minister of Education Thougan Hindawi said in his address to the conference which was organised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UN-ESCO).

The minister sald that Israel'a policies should be condemned until the Jewish state responds favourably to the will of the international community and the call of peace.

Hindawi presented to the conference a general outline about education in Jordan where, he said, those acquiring

Security Department (PSD)

Tuesday reported the closure of a

number of roads in Jordan due to

the accumulation of snow that fell

Monday evening and Tuesday

It said that the Sbobak-Wadi

Mousa, Jarba-Manshieb, Wadi

Mousa-Jarba, Petra-Ras Al Na-

gab and Athroh-Wadi Mousa

roads were blocked with snow

and that visibility in these areas

Snow closes several

AMAN (J.T.) - The Public was very poor.

roads in south Jordan

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES: Social Develop-

ment Minister Fawwaz Thougan Tuesday stressed the importance of

varying the social development training programmes and said such

programmes should be designed to meet the actual needs of the local

communities. At a meeting beld at the ministry to discuss a proposed

training course for local community social development workers,

Thougan called for utilising all available training opportunities and highlighted the role played by the Allan-based Princess Rahma Social

Development Centre in preparing and implementing the training

MAFRAQ CRAFTS AREA: The first stage of the Mafraq crafts

which included the construction of 36 stores, aims to gather all

craftsmen and industrialists in one area for environmental protection.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STUDY OF MA'AN: In the light of the

governorates' development conference resolutions, the Royal Scien-

tific Society's economic research division Tuesday embarked on a

socio-economie study for Ma'an Governorate and Agaba district, in

cooperation with the Cities and Villages Development Bank's

GOVERNORS TO ALLOCATE FUNDS: Prime Minister Zaid

Rifai Tuesday issued a circular requesting all ministers concerned to

anthorise governors to allocate funds for implementing development

projects in their capacities as beads of development councils in their

OMANI AIDE RECEIVES ENVOY: His Majesty Sultan Qaboos'

special advisor Hamad Ibn Hmoud Tuesday reviewed means of

developing the brotherly relations between Jordan and Oman with

SUPPLY OF POWDERED MILK: Supply Minister Fayez Taraw-

neb said Tuesday the ministry will supply the local markets with big quantities of powdered milk (Halibna), to meet the local market

**HMOUD DISCUSSES ORGANISATIONAL PLANS: Minister** 

of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Marwan Al

Hmoud Tuesday chaired a meeting for the Higher Council of

Organisation, during which they discussed the organisational plans of Jeffin, North Mazar, Bala'ama, Mugheir, Nahleh and Burma and

decided to form a technical committee for inspecting the situation of

the pharmacies street in Karak, where there were road cracks.

COURSE ON HOTEL MARKETING: A specialised training

course on hotel marketing, organised by the Ministry of Tourism in cooperation with the Jordan Hotels Association was held Tuesday at

the Regency Palace Hotel with a number of staff from several hotels

PSD CAUTIONS DRIVERS: The Public Security Department

(PSD) Tuesday cautioned drivers against using the Mureigha-Ras Al

Nagab Road because of the very poor visibility and the slippery

roads, resulting from the heavy snowfall in the area, and the frost

needs and to avoid any shortages in the local market. (Petra)

Jordan's ambassador to Oman Samir Al Hmoud. (Petra)

National Development Fund. (Petra)

governorates. (Petra)

attending. (Petra)

formation. (Petra)

education between the age of six and 12 account for 98 per cent of the total population. "At present students at

schools, community colleges and universities together form more than one third of the entire population of the King-dom," the minister noted. "Thus Jordan is considered

among the foremost nations backing UNESCO's endeavours to eradicate illiteracy, spread education and provide equal opportunities in education to all sectors of the popu-

"For Jordan, education is an essential component in the ongoing economic and social process; and education of the new generation is considered as a basic prerequisite for prog-ress," the minister added. Jordan has thus far com-

pleted successfully the stage of universalising education at its various levels, and is now embarking on the second stage which entails working on better quality of education to help promote the cultural, social and economic process in the Kingdom, Hindawi pointed

To achieve the goal, the minister explained, a national education conference was held

Mediterranean region.

It named Ajloun and Sharah

mountains as probable districts

where snow might fall heavily.



Thougan Hindawi

in Amman in 1987 when leading educationists, teachers and education officials worked out a chart that would serve the Kingdom and take it into the 21st century.

"The conference aimed to raise the level and improve the educational outputs to pave the way for a new generation that will cope with the technology age, and to take measures to link education to the needs of and to take measures to the community and the requirements of the labour market," the minister pointed out.

Hindawi said that Jordan now has four universities, 56 community colleges and that at involved in post secondary education studies at these educational institutions inside Jnr dan or at universities abroad.

The minister explained the role of the Council of Higher Education which, he said, takes charge of plans for community colleges and decides on all matters related to higher educa-

As a result of strenuous efforts in provide education to all citizens, he said, university trained people now form nearly eight per cent of the total ha-man resources in the Kingdom.

"But the Kingdom has a long way to go and is making plans for adapting its academic and vocational education to the labour market needs, the minister said. "This is an imperative task since the country is expected to have more than balf a milling students and nearty four-and-a-half milling inhabitants by the end of the present century."

Later Hindawi was elected as

deputy chairman of the conference, and afterwards the minister had a meeting with the UNESCO director general to discuss the organisation's programmes and Jordan's role to support its endeavours

### **Arab carriers to form aviation** financing company in early 1989

By Rania Atalla Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Arab Air Carriers' Organisation (AACO) Tuesday announced that a pan-Arab aviation financing company would be formed by the first quarter of 1989 to help finance the purchase and leasing of aircraft to Arab Air Carriers in the

Little.

clude AACO Secretary General

Adli Dajani, chairman of Royal

Jordanian Airlines (RJ), Kuwaiti

Airways (KA) and Royal Air Maroc (RAM), in addition to the

Gulf International Bank, the

Gulf Investment Company and

the International Arab Invest-

be looking to see if the project

succeeds. Dajani told the Jordan

Times. He said an AACO study

had shown that within the next

decade, Arab air carriers would

need to replace 150 of their old

planes and purchase or lease 50

other aircraft to fulfill their

growth and development plans.

With the average cost of an

aircraft estimated at \$50 million,

Dajani said, costs for the com-

pany would be expected to reach

Cairo Tuesday after reviewing

by Jordanian and Egyptian spe-

University of Jordan's Scientific

Research Department and head of

number of Arab countries.

cialists and scientists.

The formation of such a financing company comes as a response to challenges created by the merger of major U.S. airliners as well as the prospective ehallenge of Europe's integrated carriers in 1992.

A steering committee made up of representatives of Arab air carriers and financial institutions met Tuesday to discuss the preliminary feasibility study for the project, presented by the interna-tinnal consultancy firm Arthur D.

#### Tabbaa returns from Oman

AMMAN (Petra) - Minister of Industry and Trade Hamdi Tabbaa and the accompanying delegation returned to Amman Tuesday after taking part in the meeting of the Joint Jordanian-Omani Committee, which concluded its meetings in Muscat Monday.

in an arrival statement Tabbaa said the committee discussed scopes- of cooperation in the economic and commercial fields and has agreed to setting up a Jordanian-Omani company with a capital of \$10 million and to establishing a Jordanian-Omani strategic conference ended in ance of the deliberations which, expand their cooperation with for marketing fresh company Omani fish in the Arab region with its headquarters in Amman.

Tabbaa noted that the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce (FJCC) has been entrusted the three-day conference was studies in Jordan groups scientists attended by delegates from a and researchers who cooperate with drawing up the necessary studies on this subject. Tabbaa said it has been agreed at the meetings that Jordan will provide Oman with the skilled Jordanian cadres in the various fields to assist in the implementation of

buld meetings for representatives of private sectors from both countries, in implementation of the provisions of the protocol concluded between the FJCC and the Omani Chamber of Industry.

the Omani development projects.

The two sides also agreed to

The Jordanian side also reached an agreement with the Omani side for exporting Jordanian vegetables and fruit, and tomato paste to Oman.

The Jordanian side to the meetings included president of the FJCC, chairman of Amman Chamber of Industry and representatives for the Ministries of Transport and Telecommunications, Industry and Commerce, and the Jordanian Agricultural Marketing and Processing Com-

#### Haj Hassan praises Agaba port workers

AMMAN (Petra) - Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan Tuesday expressed appreciation of efforts exerted by workers at the Jordan Ports Corporation in Aqaba during Monday's storm which posed a great threat to the port facilities and the vessels docked there.

"The workers are to be commended for their operations to rescue people and protect the vessels and facilities during a nine-hour storm that unexpectedly hit the port area, and their role in minimising damage and material losses," the minister said in a statement.

The Red Sea port was exposed to a suddeo storm causing very high waves and very rough seas. shifting vessels from their bolds

and "rendering the task of mooring almost impossible." The minister said that it was only due to the men's courageous efforts that no losses of any goods

were incurred.

tbat would bring Arab finance mon regional maintenance and institutions and Arab air carriers training centre to serve their together," Dajani said. RJ's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Ali Ghandour said the steering committee had Members of the committee in-

\$10 billion over the next decade.

discussed the state of the aviation industry in the world, and the international aircraft leasing market in particular, in order to assess the viability of an Arab aviation financing company and successfully establish an Arab air financing company.

'Arab airlines have to standar- carriers would be able to join the Dajani said the formation of dise their equipment so that they the proposed company represents a "unique experience in the world," since both the customers can join forces and cooperate in the training and maintenance fields," Ghandour told the Jor-(Arab air carriers) and the finandan Times. "And this venture ciers are taking part in the pro-(between Arab air carriers and Arab financial institutions) is "We are being watched by the whole aviation world," which will

Arab strategic conference ends

with the Arab order.

CAIRO (Petra) - An Arab session, underlining the import- organised the meeting, agreed to

he said, complement the 1987

Later Bakhit said in a state-

with similar centres in Europe,

conference, it was announced

Following the conclusion of the

floated for the purposes of having 'institutional participation' determine the factors needed to among countries involved in the ргојест. Chandour said that all Arab air

He said Atab air carriers now

According to Dajani, 13 Arab

air carriers, in addition to the

tbree Arab financial institutions.

had so far expressed interest in

the prospective company. He

added that once the company is

established, its shares would be

That is a lot of maney for air have to determine their future

carriers to raise, and since Arab needs for aircraft, and to standar-

financial institutions do not have dise their specifications for air-

financing departments for the craft. Once that is accomplished,

(Arab) aerospace sector, we Ghandour said, Arab air carriers

thought of creating a company would be able to establish a com-

company once it is established. During a press conference marking RJ's 25th anniversary last month. Ghandour had called for coordination and integration among Arab airlines in the East Mediterranean region in order to (being formed) to ensure the availability of finances towards that end." counter the challenge presented by the integration of European carriers in 1992.

other Arab states to conduct re-

search on cultural trends in the

Arab World, East-West detente

and their impact on the Arab.

nation, and the Al Maghrch

Agreement was also reached

by the Iwo sides to hold joint

research work and to hold semi-

nars in which working papers that

will be presented to future con-

The third strategic conference

ferences will be reviewed.

is to be held in Morocco.

TCC COLLECTS OVER JD 46 M: The telecommunications Corporation last year collected JD 46,104,563 in telephone subscriptions and fees, compared with JD 37,593,583 in the year 1987, thus achieving an increase of JD 8,510,980 over 1987 figures, Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan said Tuesday. The minister was speaking at a meeting of the TCC board of directors, during which the board discussed the steps for privatisation of the corporation. Haj Hassan also said that the corporation has provided seven direct telephones to each 100 citizens. (Petra)

unity.

#### Turkish aide leaves after signing accord in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) - A Turkish entry into the Kingdom. The Department of Meteorolodelegation left for bome Tuesday gy earlier reported that Jordan after signing an agreement here, paving the way for Turkish Muswas affected by a depression centred over Cyprus and that as a result several cold fronts were vices provided by the Kingdom to liable to bring rain and snow to pilgrims on their way to Saudi Jordan and the Eastern

The delegation, led by Mr. Saifuddin Al Yaziji, director of the Turkish Religious Affairs De-partment, met Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat and other officials for talks on bilateral cooperation in religious affairs.

According to the agreement signed by Al Yaziji and Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Secretary General Abmad Hilayel, Turkish pilgrims travelling by land will cross into Jordan from Syria through the border post of Ramtha where a pilgrims city has been set up for their accommodation.

Mudawwara border post pro- to Mecca and Medioa in the Jordanian authorities upon their year.

Under the agreement Jordan will provide facilities for the Turkish pilgrims vehicles along the lims to enjoy facilities and ser-vices provided by the Kingdom to and Medina and will allow the Turkish authorities to open an emergency clinic at Ma'an and Mudawwara for the benefit of the

> Following the Turkish delegation's departure, Hilayel announced that the Ministry of Awgaf and Islamic Affairs has set up a technical team to supervise restoration work at pilgrims towns and border resthouses in the Kingdom to prepare them for the visiting pilgrims.

Hilayel said also that the ministry will set up guidance teams to accompany the pilgrims and to provide them with essential services during their stay in Jordan.

He expected 50,000 non-Jorda-The pilgrims will also be put up nian pilgrims to pass through at Ma'an pilgrims city and the Jordanian territory on their way vided lists of the pilgrims' names coming pilgrimage season which are supplied to the concerned will be in early summer of this

#### Old Amman marketplace to be demolished in March

AMMAN (J.T.) - The old Amman marketplace will be demolished towards the end of March to make room for development of streets and ease the flow of traffic downtown, according to a decision announced by Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeb.

The decision was originally taken by the municipal council in the past year as a first stage to develop the central regions of the capital, Rawabdeb said in a statement quoted by Al Ra'i Araic daily Tuesday.

Once the old marketplace bad around Al Husseini Mosque, the been removed there will be a report said. 12-metre street running directly from areas in the central part of the city towards the Saqf Al Sail molished and their owners will be Street instead of the present six- compensated.



Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh metre street which now goes

It said that in the process, a total of 20 stores will be de-

AL JIZA DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE: Actual development expenditure in Al Jiza Development unit in Amman Governorate totalled JD 367,458 during the year 1988, Madaba district Governor Khalid Khreisat said Tuesday. Khreisat also said that work is currently underway in the construction of two bealth centres in Jiza and Natl at a total cost of JD 113,994. (Petra)

#### Ministry preparing report on Jordan's environment

Affairs and the Environment is preparing a comprehensive report on the environment situation in Jordan to serve as a national document which would later be represented to the United Nations Environment Programme

the ministry was now gathering information from various specialised and concerned organisations in the form of a questionnaire prepared for this purpose. Once completed the study will be published in Arabic and English and distributed to all concerned authorities around the world, the

According to the statement a team of Swedish experts is due urged the Jordan Phosphate here on Jan. 28 on a two-week Mines Company to cooperate visit to help in the ministry's with Jordanian universities to

The team will conduct a study

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The rounding industrial businesses in Ministry of Municipal and Rural those areas in the course of the those areas in the course of the

The seminar also recom-

mended that the Ministry of Water and Irrigation work out a comprehensive plan to deal with the treated wastewater coming out from olive oil presses and study the prospect of recycling the treated wastewater from its on a number of regions in Zarqa, plants at Hassa, Ruseifa and and Aqaba and districts sur- Wadi Al Abiad.

#### **ACC to help Jordan Valley farmers** AMMAN (J.T.) - The Agri- tour of damaged areas in the

several working papers presented Amman conference that dealt

Apart from Jordan and Egypt, ment that the centre for strategic

Dr. Adnan Bakhit, dean of the Africa and the United States.

the university-based Centre for that Al Ahram Centre for

Strategic Studies, delivered a Strategic Studies and the Uni-

speech for Jordan at the final versity of Jordan's Centre, which

cultural Credit Corporation valley and was told by the Jordan (ACC) intends to belp Jordan Valley farmers make up for their losses incurred as a result of the zawi that the frost wave was a severe damage to their crops dur- severe blow to the farmers wbo ing last week's frost, according to need at least one and balf years to reports in the local press readjust their lands, to become Tuesday.

The report quoted Burhan Sharabi, ACC's deputy director general as saying that one way of belping the farmers was to reschedule their loans, thus postponing their dues to the corpora-

According to the ACC law, Sharabi noted, the corporation cannot write off the farmers' loans, but indeed everything is up to the government which in 1985 and 1986 wrote off interest on loans to farmers who incurred similar losses.

Al Ra'i daily conducted a field

Valley Farmers Association's board Chairman Talal Al Ghaz-

Gbazzawi estimated the loss in some areas at JD 400 per dunum of land planted with vegetables bke marrows, potatoes, pepper, eggplant and tomatoes. He suggested that government-

fully productive again.

appointed teams visit the affected land to make a full assessment of the damage before any compensation can be paid in the way of encouraging the farmers to pursue their crop-growing operations.

Gbazzawi also proposed the fund that can pay out compensa-

tion to farmers under such severe

The association's former Chairman Adel Shamaileh said that banana plantations incurred a 100 per cent loss in some cases, noting that the damage would no doubt affect production and cause shortages in the local

Shortage of tomatoes, potatoes, marrows and pepper, Shamailen said, will also be felt in the local markets.

A leading Jordan Valley landowner Nimer Zinati estimated that JD 150 were the total input in each dunum of land that produces vegetables at the rate of three tonnes annually and said that in bumper harvests farmers would normally expect JD 600 to establishment of an emergency JD 700 in revenues from each

#### Teams eliminate locust swarms

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Ministry of Agriculture bas announced that teams involved in fighting locusts in south eastern regions of the country bave eliminated all swarms that invaded the Kingdom in the past month and that the invaded areas are now completely free of the dangerous pests.

But the anoouncement warned that the locusts were expected to return to the country in the early spring as projected by the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) which said that locust danger was expected to haunt the Eastern Mediterranean and North African regions for at least four or five years.

The ministry's announcement called for concerted public and private efforts and organised plans for combating the pest and confronting future threats to the country's vegetation.

cooperation with the Armed Forces, the Royal Jordanian Air densely populated areas. Force and the Badia Security Forces in eliminating the locusts, rest of the territories in the counwill continue to pursue such collaboration that should include supervision of provincial govother government departments ernors in cooperation with public and public institutions.

announcement noted, the Kingdom bas been divided into two will be defined for each of the parties involved in the locustcombat operations. The first of these zones extends

to the south and south east and east encompassing all of the badia regions in Jordan. This zone it added will be under the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture in cooperation with

it is a desert region away from The second zone includes the

try which will be under the direct and private organisations and To attain this end, the population settlements.

At least three main waves of locusts invaded the south and main zones where responsibilities south eastern regions of the country after crossing over from Saudi Arabia.

The Ministry of Agriculture organised the fight in the affected from Wadi Al Azbab in the west areas which were visited by His to the south and south east and Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the height of the inva-

sions.

The ministry's statement said that it was continuing to monitor the Armed Forces and the Badia the situation along the border and Border Police Forces since it areas and coordinating its actions is the main area exposed to with neighbouring countries and The ministry said that its locust invasions coming from FAO in the fight against the teams, which closely maintained neighbouring states, and because locusts.

#### **WHAT'S GOING ON** The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

**EXHIBITIONS** 

\* An exhibition of works by Contemporary Arab Artists at Al

Wasiti Art Gallery. \* The Iraqi Cultural Week which includes an exhibition by the Iraqi artist Salam Al Madamgheh and an exhibition of children's paintings and children's literary and cultural books, at the Royal Cultural Centre.

\* An exhibition entitled "New Museum Buildings in the Federal Republic of Germany" at the Yarmouk University - 11:00

\* A plastic art exhibition by Mohammad Kamal, Samar Al Sabe' and Nibal Saleh at the Housing Bank Gallery.

\* An exhibition of photos and videos on "La Defense", a new district in Paris which became a symbol of architectural

#### creativity, at the French Cultural Centre. BAZAAR

\* A charity bazaar that includes wooden handicrafts, embroideries, artificial flowers, children's toys and cultural books at Ala'a Centre, Hittin Refugee Camp.

A statement Tuesday said that statement said.

study, the statement added.

A three-day seminar to deal with the negative effects of agricultural projects on the environment beld bere last month, recommended that the government speed up work on a new covironment law and called for the creation of a specialised company to deal with the organic fertilisers (manure) to help reduce the spread of flies and other barmful

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### Save Lebanon's soul

ONE of the biggest tragedies of our time is to see Lebanon, once a peaceful country, turns into a slaughter house without causing as much as a blink in the international community including the Arab World. The killing in Lebanon has been going on for so long that man has become apathetic to the crimes against bumanity that have become the order of the day in that country. And so when horrific atrocities are committed in South Lebanon in the course of the fratricidal fighting between Amal militiamen and their Hizbollah rivals, the world's reaction has become so bardened and callous to the point of insensitivity to the knifing, hacking and throat cutting that goes on between the

In contrast, when a plane crashes or a train jumps off its rail or when even cars become entangled in collisions, the world's concern rises up to the challenge and the emotions and sympathies generated by such accidents accelerate and rightly so to reach zenith proportions.

Why the world has become so numb to the agonies and cries for help from Lebanon and the Lebanese is something that is most shocking. How many more headless bodies must the world see and count in Lebanon before it begins to take heed and action? It is utterly disgraceful and inhuman to pretend that the situation in Lebanon has deteriorated to a stage that can no longer be reversed. Has man's insensitivity descended to the lowest of all gutters by arguing that the Lebanese must be left alone to stew in their own blood till the last drop is shed in the stupidest and damnest effort to satisfy the ugliest lusts for power and clout in that forsaken country? Surely there is still room for international action to stop the haemorrhage in Lebanon; but the first step lies in reawakening the world to the continuous blood-letting in Lebanon and rekindling its concern. It must be remembered that whenever a drop of blood pours out of a Lebanese vein, humanity bleeds as well.

#### **ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS**

Al Ra'i daily on Tuesday discussed nuclear and chemical weapons both of which threaten human civilisation and whose elimination the world community strives for. The paper said that the presence of such weapons contradict existence and the cause of living for human kind and their absence means the prevalence of justice, peace and equality. These kinds of weapons, it said, can only come from nations practising injustice and tend to pillage the resources of the poorer and less developed nations on earth. The paper referred to the on-going deliberations at the chemical weapons conference in Paris and said that regardless of what is being said at that conference it should be emphasised that the world community must deal with the fact that those nations with nuclear and chemical weapons are responsible for all the conflicts that arise on our globe and that the Third World nations were and still are the victims of the greed and atrocities of the powerful nations. What should be discussed at the conference, the paper concluded, is the question of how to maintain the survival of the human race and the decision that must be taken should be a total destruction of the nuclear and chemical arsenals.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily tackles the coming Arab League Council's session in Tunis which is to be held Wednesday to discuss Washington's open threats to Lihya over the question of an alleged chemical plant in that country. Mahmoud Al Rimawi says that the Arab foreign ministers will also discuss the situation in Lebanon and means to bring about a reconciliation in that embattled nation. Rimawi noted that Arab states have already declared solidarity with Tripoli and there would be no need for them to make the same declaration at the Tunis meeting. The U.S. escalation of tension in the Mediterranean and the use of force against an Arab country is something deplorable indeed and can only trigger further violence in the region, the writer adds. But what the Arabs must do at the coming meeting regarding the American threats is to take a serious unified action warning Washington of the adverse consequences that might ensue from repeated aggression on Libya, the writer continues. He says that the Arah Nation should not declare war on the U.S. nor should it stick to the verbal and meaningless declaration of support for Tripoli hut should rather be ready to take a firm action with regard to its relations with the U.S.

Al Dustour wrote on the uprising in the occupied Palestinian land which has now entered its 14th month. The Palestinian people under the yoke of Israeli colonial rule are more determined than ever before to pursue the just struggle for freedom and for ending the Israeli occupation of Arab land, the paper noted. It said that the Palestinians have now acquired experience through their continued struggle against the Zionists and are in a position to escalate their resistance. Moreover, the confinued resistance and the Arab revolt against the invaders are serving as a catalyst for joint Arab action and more solidarity among the Arab states, the paper added. It said that the heroic stand of the Palestinian people under occupation should prompt the Arabs to increase their backing to them and take concerted action to safeguard Arah national interests.

Sawt Al Shaab daily commented on King Hussein's meeting Monday with the provincial governors to discuss guidelines for the implementation of regional development. The series of development seminars held in the Kingdom have focused attention on the need for the development of the hadia and rural regions and underlined the need for concerted action on the part of all sectors to achieve comprehensive development benefiting all parts of the country, the paper said. The present stage, the paper said, makes it imperative on all Jordanians who have successfully laid down the economic infrastructure, to pursue their endeavours for

# Waiting for Bush

By Najwa Najjar

TEN DAYS away from a new administration taking office in Washington and ten days into the New Year, the question that lingers is: Will the new American administration make any substantial changes in its policy that would make 1989 the year of peace in the Middle East?

There is little disagreement among analysts and diplomats that the Reagan administration's move to lift the ban on formal contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) after a 13-year hiatus was a positive step in the right direction. The status quo that was set in 1975 by Henry Kissinger was broken and the ground appears to be set for a significant shift in American

policy.

However, whether this shift will actually take place or what form it will assume remains doubtful to many. While some analysts and diplomats believe that Washington is serious in its declared drive for peace in the Middle East, others argue that the U.S. move to open dialogue with the PLO was tactical rather than strategic and aimed at easing international pressure and isolation. More than anything else, many believe that the U.S. gesture is aimed at quelling the year-long intifada; the catalyst in the entire process.

Analysts expect the seriousness of American intentions to crystallise itself in the near future in practical American steps towards the PLO and Israel.

The role of the Soviet Union, the importance of European pressure on the concerned parties, Arah unity and support for the intifada and Jordanian-Palestinian relations are expected to be the main factors pushing the U.S. to pressure Israel to soften its stand and drop its objections to an international peace confer-

Optimists see an international conference being held within the next six months and expect a preparatory committee to be formed while contacts among all concerned parties continue. The committee, they say, will attempt to iron out some of the fundamental differences and set the stage for an international confer-

Analysts and diplomats predict that it is highly improbable that Bush will be coaxed by Zionist and Israeli pressure into swimming against the international will and pursuing a policy of renegading on and revoking the U.S.-PLO dialogue. They do. however, see two options in front of Bush: Working with the international community to encourage Israel to enter an international peace conference or he contended with the status quo.

Some analysts and diplomats agree that the Bush administration will work for peace since the PLO has met U.S. demands. Furthermore, Bush's familiarity with the region and the conflict, warmer relations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union and the change in attitudes in the U.S. and Israel are seen as positive indicators of serious efforts

The Soviet ambassador in Jordan, Alexander Zinchuk, believes that chances of the Americans applying pressure on Israel have improved considerably. .

The inflexible Israeli stand can be changed through American pressure," said Zinchuk, adding that although Soviet-Israeli contacts have been ongoing, "we are talking to the Israelis to convince them that the situation can not continue nor is it in the Israelis' interest for it to continue.

"But we think that we should work through the Americans to apply pressure on Israel." The ambassador hopes that the

Israeli desire to reestablish ties with the Soviet Union will be a decisive factor for any Israelis to opt for peace.

Another diplomat who follows American politics closely contends that the Americans are likely to pressure Israel to soften its stand in order to protect their own interests in the region and 'Israel against its own will."

"The American administration has broken the Kissinger agreement. Their credibility in front of their people and the world is on the line. It is in their best interests to advise Israeli policymakers to come to grips with realities — that the PLO is the representative of the Palestinian people, and for Israel to live in peace with its neighbours, it has to negotiate a peace agreement with the PLO and the Arabs,"

A political commentator and general director of Al Kutha Publishing House, Rami Khoury, believes that the U.S. decision to talk to the PLO was a historically inevitable recognition of the

They (the U.S.) has already made the most important pressnre move hy recognising the PLO," said Khoury.

Bush, the man

The PLO's explicit acceptance of U.S. conditions and the American recognition of the PLO are not the only encouraging indicators. Analysis and diplomats are optimistic about Bush, the man. Assad Abdul Rahman, member of the Palestine National Council (PNC) and general director of the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation, describes Bush's past as head of the Central Intelli- Jewry.

gence Agency (CIA) as positive since "it will steer his policies away from ideology and towards

Abdul Rahman sees Reagan as not only a converted Zionist but also a believer in a perverted kind of Christianity, a political religion, which includes the strategic story of what Israel means to the

On the other hand, "Bush has. learnt to he practical and pragmatic. He is a bureaucrat which is especially important in this new age of pragmatism," says Abdul

"Given Bush's familiarity with the region and all developments and changes since 1982, the new president will not have any excuse to delay pushing the peace process forward," according to Abdul Rahman.

Abdul Rahman also comments

on the new Soviet era, saying the Soviet Union has played a major role in the region "directly through the European countries," and that its policy has been one dominated by "pragmatism" - it made some concessions so that all parties will make concessions, Afghanistan, the Gulf war and Namihia are examples of conflicts solved through "prag-matism" and concessions.

On this point, Amhassador Zinchuk says: "We have seen that Gorbachev's calls for solutions to regional issues as crucial to solving world problems have been correct. To a certain degree, progress has been made in many areas around the world. There is a possibility in Gorbachev's thinking to solve Middle East

Zinchuk helieves that the Americans will eventually support the Soviet Union's calls for an effective international conference and for Israel to withdraw to pre-1967 borders.

The American views of the Soviet role in the region, Zinchuk says, reflect strategic changes in the U.S. policy. "The U.S. used to claim that the Soviet Union had no interests in the region." he said. "Later, they agreed that the Soviet Union may have interests, but stood against any Soviet role in an international conference. Now it has accepted that the Soviet Union will participate in any peace process. However, differences of interpretations of an international conference remain between the Soviet Union and the U.S.'

'Crack in the Israeli wall'

The U.S. administration is also seen as possibly more willing to apply pressure on Israel because of the shift in the American public opinion and the polarisation within Israel and among world

Abdul Rahman points out that Jaber said. Jewish sympathy with the Palestinians is on a gradual increase. He refers to a recent opinion poll in Israel which shows that 54 per cent of the Israeli people want their government to talk to the PLO if it lived up to its commit-

ment to halt "terrorism." There are other indications of "the crack in the Israeh wall." The Peace Now movement in Israel is calling for an end to occupation and for negotiations with the PLO and with cahinet minister Mordechai Gur's statement that the PLO's representatives in the occupied territories. could be partners in Middle East peace efforts if the PLO took practical steps of showing it was committed to halting "ter-

Abdul Rahman notes that many Labour Party members are opting for the Likud position. which aims to impose autonomy," to quell the intifada, and to expel Palestinians from the occupied territories.

A former minister and leader of the Democratic Unionist gathering, Jamal Al Shaer, says that the success of the intifada, the unity of the PLO factions and the slowly emerging unity of the majority of the Arah countries have brought about a change of attitude even within the Jewish community and lobby in the U.S. exerting an obvious influence on policymakers, especially in the U.S. Congress, and to a great extent in the White House and State Department.

The Soviet amhassador also points to the change in American public opinion which may have an effect on the U.S. policy towards ĭsrael. .

On the other hand, several analysts strongly disagreed that Bush would be dealing with the issue immediately or would apply pressure on Israel to enter the peace process on internationally agreed terms. They say that the controversial nature of the issue. past U.S. dealings with the Palestinians, U.S.-Israeli ties and interests and Israeli intransigence will lead the U.S. to pursue a policy which promotes the status quo and aims to ease international pressure and isolation and to end the intifada.

University of Jordan professor of political science Kardel Ahu Jaher does not see the Bush administration dealing with "such a thorny issue," in any hurry after rorist group, and continued to on no-one's terms. "They (the entering the White House.

The Bush administration is more likely to choose an issue that they will have immediate success in, "especially since Bush is very familiar with the Israeli attitude which has been negative, whether Labour or Likud," Abu

He pointed out that the Amer-"needs time to ferment in the until recently have been filled with ann-PLO slogans."

believes that the American dia- respectability and recognition. logue with the PLO was hrought about by international pressure and the intifada, representing a non-violent rejection of occupation. However, the analysts refer to the manner in which the U.S. has dealt the issue over the past several decades and thus do not see any strong enough reason for the Americans to change the

peace," and yet nothing crystal-

"During those years the U.S. did not have a strategic alliance; it did not give such enormous ance of 242 and renunciation of quantities of weapons to Israel. Actually ex-President Carter tied an Israeli weapons deal to an arms package for Saudi Arahia. Carter also spoke of the rights of process under the name Pales- also be renounced," he said.

"Since Carter's time, each con-

1974. "The PLO's position has tions and to reach a settlement." been clear since 1974 and the PNC resolutions of 1974 indicate with peace efforts that the PLO wants peace." The 1974 PNC resolutions called for the estabon any liberated part of Palestine.

being created in the PLO, a the U.S. process with clearly indicated that troying Israel. The Americans did American's decision to talk with not encourage this new direction: the PLO is a direct signal to They denounced the PLO's Washington and a message to the moves, labelled the PLO a 'ter- world that Israel will accept peace strengthen Israel mulitarily

from the PLO in an attempt to Saleh. end the intifada and to sidestep ence by calling for direct negotia- the Jordan Times.

The U.S. and Israeli demand ican decision to talk with the PLO that the PLO recognise Israel's "right to exist" was seen by some minds of most Americans who foreign analysts as an attempt to commit the PLO to a direct. unequivocal acceptance of Israel Abu Jaber, like other analysts, and to give Israel international

Godfrey Jansen of the Londonbased Middle East International says that this demand substituted the initial condition laid down by the U.S. and Israel five years ago which was a revision of the Palestinian charter to eliminate "threats" to the Zionist state.

On Dec. 10, Secretary of State George Shultz said the U.S. conditions were: unqualified accept-Columnist Tareq Masarweh points to the 1970s "when condiance of 242, acceptance of Israel's tions were more favourable for terrorism. Two days later, Israel reported a new list of U.S. conditions: recognition of Israel's 'sovereignty," of its right to exist within secure and recognised. boundaries, unqualified accept-

"The U.S. and Israel are also beginning to insert yet another new demand: an end to the intifada. The argument is that if 'terthe Palestinian people and said ror' is to renounce then any viothat they were to enter the peace lence, meaning the intifada, must

A journalist for the Arabic paper Al Dustour and a political secutive American administration commentator. Hamadeh has become progressively more Fara'aneh, commenting on the pro-Israeli," said Masarweh, first round of talks hetween adding that he expects no marked American officials and the PLO diversion from this trend. "The in Tunis, said: "The American Bush administration may lessen ambassador in Tunis said that the its support for Israel, but there Americans regard these discuswill be no essential change." sions as part of getting to know Supporting Masarweh. PNC the Palestinian point of view. sions as part of getting to know member and head of the Jeru- This will benefit the U.S. goals, salem Centre for Development as the U.S. understands them, to Studies Abdul Jawad Saleh re- help the involved sides (including traces the PLO's policy back to the PLO) to have direct negotia-

Saleh, Ahu Jaber and Shaer agree that the Americans "gave?" to anyone who wants to proceed the impression that the intifada and the status quo should not continue.

A final factor which canoot be. lishment of a national authority overlooked and may have a major effect on U.S. policy is the However, the U.S. response to Israeli defiance. Time and time the PNC resolution "was to deny again Israeli leaders have stressed that there was a new process that they will not "bow down to

The increase of casualties in the PLO was not bent on des- the occupied territories since the Other indicators of the lack of the U.S. that 'we do not care, we U.S. seriousness is the American have our own policies and we demand for further concessions won't comply with yours'," said

an effective international confer- Najwa Najjar is a staff reporter at

# SAARC — high aims, low profile

By M. Idrees Bakhtiar

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan Keeping a low profile but high aims within their sights, the leaders of South Asian nations have given the clearest indication yet that they intend to try and catch up with the rest of Asia before this century is out. Their goal was encapsulated in "SAARC 2000" - virtually a charter for development in the area encompassing Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri

· Behind the futurist title lies what the leaders modestly call a "basic needs perspective" aimed at improving the lot of the 1.018 million people that inhabit the

subcontinent. With annual gross national product per person ranging from \$150 (Bhutan and Nepal) to \$400 (Sri Lanka), the SAARC region

is one of the poorest concentrations of people in Asia. It is, however, also one of the most ambitious and enterprising communities in the world, seeking a tochold on the 21st century against obvious and heavy odds.

The contradictions of the region, however, were not high on the agenda of SAARC leaders who converged on the Pakistani capital in December to emphasise and explore new areas of cooperation. The high point of the palaver was not any multilateral conference hut a bilateral summit hetween India's Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and his newly elected Pakistani counterpart, Benazir Bhutto.

lt was, by all signs, a prelimin-ary encounter between the leaders of the traditional rivals and former combatants in wars over Kashmir, who pledged in an agreement not to attack each other's nuclear power facilities --a source of long-standing friction - but seemed to have been agreed on little else besides of

any significance. India is at the centre of controversy in Pakistan over the purpose and direction of SAARC, which was formed four years ago. Critics sceptical of SAARC's protestations of mutual cooperation and peaceful coexistence consider the body a pretext for India to impose its will on its neighbours. This view has been reinforced, according to these critics, by the dispatch of Indian peacekeeping forces to Sri Lanka and recently to the Maldives to thwart a coup attempt.

The critics argue that uneven as its composition is - from tiny Bhutan to the giant India — the chances of SAARC ever achiev-

ing consensus on key issues are very remote.

Other critics allege that SAARC is an attempt to detach Pakistan from Middle Eastern sphere, specially Saudi Arahia, with whom it has strong political, religious and economic links. The argument draws strength from the fact that Pakistan and Bangladesh are the only Muslim states in the club. Again, the critics argue, if Pakistan loses those moorings, India will emerge as the preeminent power of the re-

While that political argument remains inconclusive, the economic and social aspects of SAARC have become more pronounced, leading sceptics to believe that some good may come out of the association after all.

Attention at the summit was focused on multilateral coopera-

of views and policies.

According to a declaration issued after the three-day summit, before the century is out, the such coordination. Drug abuse constituent nations will have has risen alarming throughout the worked their way through a subcontinent. In the absence of hroad framework to harmonise cooperation among the countries policies. Coordination in sectors in the past, the drug trafficking such as food, clothing, shelter, could not be stopped. If the education, primary health care, smugglers' routes are sealed in Pakpopulation planning and environmental protection is provided for in the so-called Islamabad Declaration.

tion in specific fields, from a fight and implement them in concert against the pledge of hard drugs with the plans of other SAARC which has swept through the sub- nations. Specific targets will have continent to greater convergence to be met hy the end of the century.

The drug issue, in fact, may become one of the first tests of istan, the drug finds outlets in India.
With all the regional countries agreeing to work together the chances are that the drug traffic The member countries would and abuse will be controlled to a identify the areas of core interest in their respective national plans academic File.

### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES** Going too far

IN a column published in Al Dustour Tuesday, economics columnist Abdullah Malki warned from going overboard with talk about economic austerity measures and belt-tight-ening to curh current public spending.

The writer argued that the government was going too far in carrying out some belt-tightening measures such as restricting the use of government vehi-

"It is quite disturbing for me to see that things have reached the point of operating patrol cars on holidays to apprehend those who use government cars, including ministry under secretaries or secretaries general," He pointed out that the King-

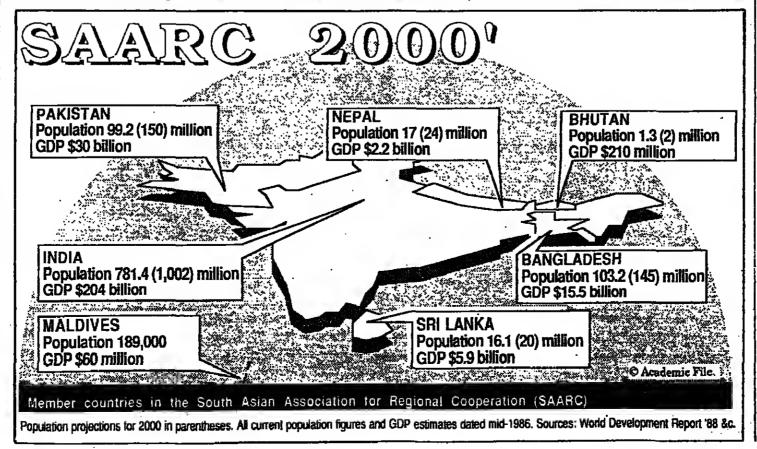
dom's total expenditure stood at 1D1,035 million of which 66.5 per cent are current spending for consumer items and services. He said this percentage amounts to JD688.9 million of total spending compared to JD661 million the government spent last year, an in-crease of only 4.3 per cent.

He said that compared to previous years, the increase in spending was modest. However, the columnist added, revenues cannot cope with this spending

which shows the nature of the present financial dilemma." Spending, he said, was distri-buted on 95 items on the budget with most items maintaining allocations similar to those of last year's budget with slight differences. The items that witnessed significant changes include the Ministry of Health hudget (JD11 million less). armed forces, public security and civil defence allocations (JD4.5 million lower) standing at JD 251.5 million. Refugee relief allocations declined from JD 3 million to one million and allocations to subsidise basic farm products and industrial exports fell from JD12 million

The large increases he noted were given to medical treatment institutions going up from JD5 milliba to JD25 million. Interest on internal and external borrowing increased from JD 93 to JD 198 million. Pension allocations increased from JD62 million to JD74 milhon, and the radio and television hudget was increased by JD1.5 million.
"It is clear that the structure

of current spending does not enjoy the flexibility that allows for a squeeze on spending so officials and crizzens would like, Malki remarked



### Customary, tribal law still governs much of Africa

By David Ress

NAIROBI - In some parts of Africa a goat-thief, instead of being hauled before a judge, might be told by tribal elders to hrew beer for the whole com-

That way, you pay a price, hut it's not too bad because you have a party, said one civil servant in the Central African nation of Burundi.

You're not too upset, neither is the victim, so life can go on without strain," he said.

Customary law, in which dis-putes are settled by village or tribal elders, governs daily life for many Africans, setting guidelines and sanctions for anything from selling land to getting married, from punishing criminals to hurying the dead.

problem goes to elders, except for customary law, but as problem goes to elders, except for murder or cattle theft, when the police step in " end of the communities are content to the police step in " end of the communities are content to the communities are content to the police step in " end of the communities are content to the communit the police step in," said the civil servant in Burundi. An emphasis on a communal

spirit and on promoting social harmony is what distinguishes customary law, and is what many African legal scholars find attractive about it, In Uganda, many of the elected village and parish councils set up since 1986 by the government of

President Yoweri Museveni have adopted customary law for most day-to-day affairs.

In neighbouring Kenya, however, parliament has exempted criminal law, contracts,

succession and most civil law suits from the customary legal system. "Officially, parliament and the government have reduced the

where they use customary precepts of law," said Kivutha Kihwana, a law professor at Nairobi Uni-

"When there are disputes, people try to settle them themselves... even in criminal matters. there are cases when a community wants to resolve a matter — in cases of death, a clan will decide it has to pay to recompense the victim's family, even if the police have taken up the matter themselves," Kibwana said.

When customs conflict with laws based on European codes, some African lawyers argue that custom should prevail.

Why must we have British common law, or Roman law -we have our own legal traditions and they are just as good," said Sudanese Justice Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Hassan Al Tourabi during a recent visit

But in Sudan, Al Tourahi's said. alternative - a system based on Islamic Sharia Law but providing some scope for traditional codes to govern the affairs of non-Muslims — has sparked strong opposition and is helping fuel a five-year-old civil war in the mainly Christian and animist south of the country.

In Al Tourahi's system the basic relationship between citizen and society, including criminal law, will be governed by sharia -and rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army say that until the Khartoum government is no deht anymore?" said Kihfreezes plans to implement Shar- wana.

ia, the civil war will continue. Other African countries have also tried to define hasic political relations by looking to their own traditions and culture.

"When in Tanzania, they tried communal ownership in the Ujamaa (socialist) villages, they looked to traditional law to see whether it could justify this new socialism that they were trying to build," said Kibwana.

But Tanzanja has since backtracked, and as it moved towards a more free-market oriented system few of those cooperative villages and communal farms and factories survive.

There are other hazards in traditional systems, too. "Malawi talked about disputes

being settled by elders, hut what they did was to remove treason and political offences from the courts and give them to the elders," Kibwana said.

"Then the government can tell the elders what to do, so there is no due process of the law," he

But Kibwana thinks customary law, no matter how politically popular or advantageous to a government it may be, faces an uncertain future.

Commercial disputes cannot be settled by traditional means and in the long run that will undermine customary legal systems, he

. "What will happen now, if you are owed a debt and it goes on its own granary in a fertile 'back- politics, natural disasters and yard' like the Sudan, Yemen or shrinking revenues from oil exand you are not paid -- will you then do the traditional thing and Several millions of dollars in say, oh, you're my brother, there

**Empress Michiko, the commoner** 

The outlook for Arab food production will remain the grip of a famine. The projects in other countries earmarked for gloomy until concerted efforts are made to produce a "100 per cent Arab loaf of bread." cedural difficulties. storehouse of food for a population comparable to the United States not only in size but also in

Sudan, "sold" until a few years

fact were pumped into tentative ago by its leaders as the future projects aimed at creating such a granary of the Arah World, is in

growing appetites. But, nearly a

decade later, the collective Arah

farm remains a dream, the efforts

awash with cash but needing a of food strategists or idealists

non-oil infrastructure, will create thwarted by a combination of

joint Arab investment have been affected by cash sbortages or pro-Now the crunch seems to be

approaching. Arab food experts who met in Sharjah, the United Arah Emirates, in December saw gloomy prospects for food selfsufficiency in the Arab World. At least a third of the Arab World's population, they warned, could be starving by the year 2000. The political implications of the resulting dependence on imports were judged to be too fearsome to contemplate.

rious measures to produce a loaf of bread that is totally Arab, because this represents the safety valve for food security," the conference was told. Seven out of 10 loaves baked in the Arah World are believed to be made from imported grain.

The Arah World is not the only group of people dependent on food, but its dependency is worrying because the one thing suitable partner for her 28-yearthat the Arab states can fall back old son Hiro, now crown prince and heir to Japan's chrysantheupon, i.e. oil, has not proven to be a secure as originally believed." said one observer.

With oil prices hovering below the OPEC basic price of \$18 a barrel, the experts believe that the Arab states need to move quickly away from costly food imports and redirect the money into infrastructural investments.

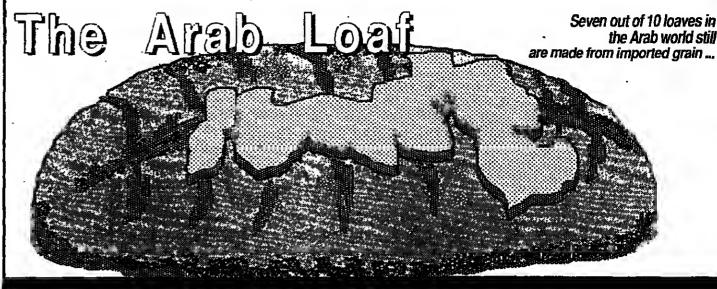
> Experts at the Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organisation have voiced concern for several years at the Arab World's food import bill, which was a whopping \$25 billion in 1987. Although agricultural development in individual countries, particularly those in the Gulf, has been little short of dramatic, the experts point out, agriculture in the Arah World as a whole bas

not kept pace with population growth, urbanisation and industrial development. Edouard Saouma, the

Lebanese director-general of the U.N. agency, in recent remarks expressed concern that the Middle East's dependency on food had jumped sharply within two

"Oil and petrochemical indus-tries (have) depleted the agri-cultural work force but there (has) been no compensating increase in the region's productivity," he said. New policies, new priorities and a new allocation of resources in favour of agriculture were required urgently.

The recent locust threat experienced by the Gulf countries has added a new dimension, convinc-ing experts that Arab countries are just as vulnerable to natural disasters as their African neighbours. "For too long, agricultural experts in North Africa tended to see the rest of the continent as their backyard and no more, said on expert. "The locust threat illustrated the problem," he added, and joked many planners ont of their complacency.



Food self-sufficiency is a serious challenge to Arab countries. Unless agriculture is given priority NOW a third of people in the area could starve by 2000.

Arab food outlook — depressing



### **Sweden refutes** suicide myth

By Eva Ahlberg

provided new proof to refute the long winters. On the contrary, myth that it tops the world's the suicide rate tends to increase

1980 and are well short of several other nations,

"We bave more knowledge about the problem today and the development of anti-depressants has been tremendous. Now there is a realistic possibility that the curve will remain steady," said Dannta Wasserman, a leading Swedish suicide researcher.

Wasserman, psychiatrist at Stockholm's prestigious Karolinska Institute, recently completed a study on suicide in Stockholm between 1975 and 1985.

The findings show that suicides have decreased significantly in the capital over that period. The only groups that registered an increase were men aged 45 to 54 and women of 65 and above. "While the study is generally positive, it is very disturbing to

see that so many older women are committing suicide. The only reason I can think of is that it is difficult for them integrate socially at that age," Wasserman said. National statistics for 1986 show Sweden had 18.6 suicides per 100,000 inhabitants. By comparison, Denmark had a corresponding figure of 28.5, while Finland had 25.1 and Norway 13.9.

The country at the top of the world's suicide league is Hungary, with 43.2 suicides per 100,000 inhabitants, according to figures supplied by the United Nations. "Compared with a few years

ago, the situation in Sweden has improved, and bopefully it will get even better," she said. Wasserman also dented the

reason for the relatively high

STOCKHOLM — Sweden bas the rate is not higher during our 

The reasoo, she said, could be while suicides in other countries, that already bard-pressed relaparticularly in Nordic neightionships often culminate in bours, are still on the rise. Swed-catastrophe during holiday ish figures have been stable since periods when people spend more time together and pressure to have fun increases.

> Another recent study done by Dr. Agnes Hulton of Gavle Hospital in central Sweden showed that teenage suicides had also eased during the past 15 years.

The study, on youths aged be-tween 10 and 29, showed no increase, although international reports have indicated that teenage suicide is on the rise worl-

But it pointed to a levelling out in the gap between the sexes in the methods they choose for

"During the 1980s young women have started to ahandon the so called passive ways, includmg using sleeping pills, and are instead turning to the traditional male methods, such as hanging themselves." she said.

Hulten joined her colleague in saying no significant difference could be seen in the suicide rate for Swedish teenagers during the various months of the year.

But despite the new studies, Wasserman said suicide was still a leading cause of death for both men and women between 15 and 44 years of age.

And it may still be some time

until the suicide myth is huried in the past, as it has become something of a Swedish trademark, even something to joke about.

"We have funny drinking habits, copulate diligently and then commit snicide after paying a dreadful amount of tax,' said Swedish actor Etland theory that Sweden's long winters Josephson of his country's image and chilly climate could be a abroad.

#### who broke imperial tradition thy flour company executive, obscurity by Prince Akihito to the palace. Michiko was considered a com- become eventual Empress of That caus TOKYO -- The new Empress of

Japan met her husband on a tennis court at a resort north of

try's most eligible bacbelor.

son of new Emperor Akihito and

grandson of Emperor Hirohito

who died early Saturday after 62

years rule, has not been hedged

in by many of the traditions which

have surrounded the Japanese

Hiro, who has a younger

brother and a sister, has lived

since birth with his parents, un-

like his father and grandfather

who were given to others to raise

imperial family for centuries.

moner and her marriage to the then crown prince was seen in Japan an epoch-breaking event.

Tokyo some 30 years ago. For many Japanese, she was a cinderella figure, plucked from For many Japanese, she was a

A new crown prince . Hiro has cooquered 30 .of ... Japan's 100 highest peaks includ-TOKYO - Crown Prince Hiro, ing the 3,192-metre high Kita-

cbrysantbemum thronc, is a the country's second bighest medieval scholar and the coun-mountaio. In August 1986, he gave a The 28-year-old prince, cldest speech before 300 experts in on of new Emperor Akihito and Tokyo about the "Circulation of goods around the upper stream of the Thames in the 18th century."

newly next in line to Japan's Dake of the southern Japan alps,

An amateur viola player, the crown prince has performed on the stage 16 times including a solo performance at a charity coocert. He also likes tennis and horseback riding.

That caused the press to idolise her as the ideal Japanese mother.

Her marriage broke an imperial tradition that required the crown prince's wife be chosen from women of the imperial family or the peerage.

By Fabrissio Fontemaggi

ROME - Until a few years ago.

agronomists at Rome's FAO

headouarters and elsewhere were

optimistic that the Arab World.

Their wedding parade, broad-cast nationwide by television, belped shrink the distance between the imperial family and the. people that had built up before of in the past. Emperor Hirohito renounced his divinity at the end of World War

medal winner at the Seoul Olympics when they met at party here with her knowledge of synchronised swimming.

Ideal Japanese mother

She also broke tradition when she decided to bring up her three children at home rather than send them off to a private tutor outside When meeting ordinary peo-plc, Michiko often went up to talk to them, something unheard A graduate from the English literature department at Sacred

One of her main preoccupa-

tions has been to belp find a

mum throne.

Heart Women's University in After her marriage, Michiko Tokyo in 1957, Michiko is known maintained a keen interest in for her interest in the arts. She is sports and surprised a Japanese an bonorary vice-president of the Japanese Red Cross Society. Michiko plays the harp and

sometimes provides piano accompaniment for her husband's cello and her son's viola.

She underwent a uterus operation early in 1986 but seemed to recover fully and resumed official duties after a half-year rest.

"Arab states should take se-

While the Gulf states in recent vears bave concentrated resources on developing their agriculture, against heavy odds (such as shortage of manpower), North Africa bas felt increasingly ex-posed despite abundant and cheap labour.

Meagre cash resources and the 'shadow of Africa' south of the Sahara have given rise to fears that when the crunch comes, Arab countries in North Africa will be the first to feel it.

"If there is a famine in the Arah World, and if one doesn't count what's happening already in the Sudan, it will start in North Africa and put tremendous pressure on the rest of the Arab community," said one analyst.—
Academic File.

#### in early infancy. In 1983, he became the first heir to the throne to study ahroad — he studied medieval European transport and economics at Oxford University's Merton Col-He also spoke more frankly than any of his predecessors when he discussed his choice of a bride The first & best Chinese Restaurant "I prefer someone not too extravagant. Not someone who in Jordan would huy this and that at Tif-1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahliyyah Girls School The prince who stands 1.63

metres tall, said he would not place great importance on family, academic hackground, nor physical height in his choice of a partner. "A person who is modest hut who will speak her own mind when necessary is desirable," he said.

at a news conference in 1986.

fany's in New York," he said.

Since he returned from Oxford in 1985, the prince has increasingly been engaged in official functions as a member of the imperial

In October 1987, with his. grandfather Hirohito sick in hospital and his father - then Crown Prince Akihito - on an official visit to the United States, Hiro temporarily assumed state ceremonial duties for the first time.

He has heen a post-graduate student at Gakushuin University in Tokyo, where he chose "maritime transport in Japan's inland sea in the 14th-16th centuries," as his thesis.

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### Reagan boasts economic record as second American revolution

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — President Reagan Tuesday proudly described the economic record of his administration as a second American revolution that had inspired the world.

"Just as the first American revolution, which began with the shot heard around the world, inspired people everywhere who dreamed of freedom, so bas this second American revolution inspired changes throughout the world," he declared.

"The message that we brought to Washington — reduce government, reduce regulation, restore incentives — bas been beard around the world," Reagan said in a foreword to bis eighth and final economic report to Con-

Reagan, who hands over to George Bush on Jan. 20, will be the first president in 36 years to leave office with both a lower inflation rate and a lower unemployment rate than when he entered the White House, according

to the report. Much of the 290-page report is a paean to the low-tax policies that fuelled the expansion, which is now in its 74th month, a peacetime record.

But Reagan said he would be the first to admit that his agenda was not yet completed.

Federal spending had to be reduced further to close the budget deficit. The trade gap needed to come down more, and inflation — "a hidden, insidious way of taxing the American peo-- was still too high, the president said.

The economic report, prepared by the White House Council of Economic Advisers chaired by Beryl Sprinkel, said the Bush administration needed to continue Reagan's policies so these challenges could be met and the

economic expansion sustained. In 1989 the growth rate of the non-farm economy was likely to slow to 2.8 per cent from 3.3 per cent last year because of slower government spending, a more restrictive monetary policy and a pause for breath in the booming export sector.

The economic forecasts, first published in late November, envisage overall economic growth of 3.5 per cent, up from 2.6 per cent in 1988. The drought reduced output last year by 0.7 of a

percentage point. The report said a slowdown in the non-farm economy would be welcome because it would ease inflationary pressures in indus-

tries that were operating flat out. Slower overall growth will enable capactiy to expand to meet demands in future years and continue the current record-setting expansion," it said.

An important legacy of the Reagan administration was its success in creating a stable policy environment instead of tinkering constantly with spending, regulanons and other levers of the

Unfortunately, Reagan's advisers lamented, the Federal Reserve (Fed) soll seem to overreact to short-run changes in economic indicators that are either temporary or illusory.

This overreaction adds needless and inefficient volatility to markets," the report said.

It was the last in a long series of criticisms of the central bank by the Reagan administration, which has periodically contended that the inflation-conscious Fed was threatening growth by keeping interest rates too high.

In a press briefing on the report, Sprinkel said he was satisfied with current monetary policy but acknowledged that Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan bad the power to make or break the administration's 1989 economic forecast

With inflationary expectations fading, he said it would be unfortunate if Greenspan drove interest rates ever higher.

The economie report came close to self-criticism in admitting that much of the foreign capital flowing into America was financ-

instead of investment. It also said reducing the budget gap was an essential component of a strategy to narrow the trade gap.

But on several other controversial aspects of the Reagan legacy, the report was defiant.

It defended a surge in the dollar from 1983 to 1985, which severely damaged the competioveness of U.S. exporters on world markets, as being inevitable because of America's attractions as a home for foreign

Swings in currency values were not evidence that the world economy had become less stable but were the mechanism by which the economy adjusted to changes affecting demand and output.

"Increased variability of real exchange rates is entirely consistent with greater economic stabilthe report said.

#### Bush agrees 'with intent of budget'

Meanwhile, President-elect Bush bestowed cautious praise on President Ronald Reagan's parting budget Monday, saying be 'agrees with its intent" while making clear be will develop his own proposals.

"I will continue to review it for possible amendments after 1 sume the office of the presidency," Bush said in a succinct written statement on the \$1.15 trillion spending plan Reagan sent to Congress for the fiscal year begin-

ning Oct. 1.

Busb also said be will have nothing further to say on his own budget plans until after he takes

Brady - whom Bush has asked and would eliminate 82 programto stay on — told reporters that "work is actively under way" on Busb's budget modifications. "It is certainly possible that

much of the current budget will remain on the table, although it is too early at this stage to offer more specific details," Brady

Brady also said that Reagan's budget, by proposing the legally required deficit reduction without

'fully shared by President-elect

The state of the s

The vice president, in his statement, said that Reagan's farewell budget "is an excellent budget which demonstrates clearly that the targets set under the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings law can be met and indeed exceeded without raising taxes.

"Naturally, I support its intent," he added.

The deficit law calls for a fiscal 1990 deficit of no more than \$100 billion. The new Reagan budget projects a deficit - assuming adoption of all its elements - of \$92.8 billion for 1990, down from an estimated \$161.5 billing deficit in the current fiscal year.

During his campaign, Bush advocated what be called a "flexible freeze" on federal spending. The concept calls for building the increase in overall spending at the annual rate of inflation - currently running at about 4.4 per

Any proposed additional increases would bave to be offset by corresponding decreases in other programmes - except that social security benefits would not be touched

Bush will have to find room in the Reagan budget outline for the increases in spending needed for the "kinder, gentler nation" programmes he proposed in his campaign.

And, even though Reagan's budget appears to smooth the way for some of these modifications, in some cases the document appears at odds with Bush's campaign statements,

Reagan's budget again calls for Treasury Secretary Nicbolas austerity in social programmes mes. At the same ome, the plan would protect bis defence buildup by advocating a two per cent increases in defence spending authority above inflation.

Congressional budget writers have said they expect defence spending may be one of the areas Bush looks at most closely as he seeks to find offsetting reductions to make his "flexibile freeze"

### **ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS**

#### Saudi oil reserves reach 252b barrels

DHAHRAN (AP) — The Arabian American Oil Co. (Aramco) has announced that Saudi Arabia's oil reserves have risen to 252.38 billion barrels, about 50 per cent more than the earlier estimates. Aramco, based in the capital of Saudi Arabia's oil-producing Eastern Province, said gas reserves were pegged at 177.294 trillion cubic feet. An earlier estimate put Saudi oil reserves, the largest in the world, at 171.5 billion barrels. The Aramco report, distributed by the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA), said that untapped reserves could raise the estimates to 315 billion barrels of oil and 253 trillion cubic feet of gas, both associate and natural gas. By comparison, the United States has estimated oil reserves of 27 billion barrels and the Soviet Union some 63 billion barrels. SPA said the new estimates followed six years of intensive study by a computerised engineering centre in Dbahran manned by the world's largest grouping of oil experts and engineers with the most sophisticated equipment available. Saudi Arabia and neighbouring Gulf countries sit on two-thirds of the world's oil proven reserves. Iraq, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates each bave estimated reserves of around 100 billion barrels.

#### N., S. Yemens to form joint oil firm

ADEN (R) - South Yemen bas approved the establishment of a joint company with North Yemen to develop an oil and mineralrich reginn along their common border, local newspapers have said. The new company will bave capital of \$10 million, with each country providing half, and will begin operating later this year, a government decree published in the newspapers said. The firm has received bids from 32 international oil and mineral companies for contracts to explore 2,200 square kilometres in the Shabwa and Marib regions, but none has been awarded yet, the newspapers said. Its headquarters will be in Sanaa in North Yemen with a branch in Aden in the South. It will be jointly headed by the oil ministers of the two countries. Oil was discovered in North Yemen's Marib region in 1984 and in South Yemen's Shabwa region across the border in 1986.

#### 'World arms trade must be public'

BONN (R) - West German President Richard Von Weizsaecker has urged all nations to be open in their arms manufacture and trade practices in order to bring about worldwide "peace without fear." "What is needed is a transparency of arms structures and spending, and not least arms exports," he said in an address to Bonn's diplomatic corps, "Every country must summon the courage to expose the number and kind of its weapons before the critical eye of the world public." "There are still too many weapons in the world that are not meant for a country's own defence," Weizsaecker said.

#### Chinese exports hit record \$40b

BEUING (AP) - Chinese exports topped \$40 billion in 1988. setting a record and exceeding official targets by several billion dollars, the People's Daily has reported. The newspaper quoted preliminary figures released by the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade as showing exports totalled \$40.1 billion and nearly 70 per cent of them were industrial finished products. The ministry said the figure was not final and likely would rise slightly when more information came in from remote areas. It also said import figures had not been compiled yet. The preliminary export total was up more than 16 per cent from 1987's \$34.6 billion. Although the increase was higher than planned, it was sharply lower than the 1987 increase of 28 per cent. But the official newspaper, China Daily, quoted an unidentified ministry official as saying China's export performance was remarkable in view of increased competition on the world market.

#### Brazil to lop three zeros off cruzado

BRASILIA (R) - Brazil intends to lop three zeros off its rapidly devaluing currency, the cruzado. When it was created in February 1986, the cruzado was fixed at 13.80 to the U.S. dollar. Today the dollar is worth 809 cruzados at the official rate and about 1,330 on the blackmarket. Ronaldo Costa Couto, chief of civilian staff at the presidency, told reporters that the government would soon create the "new cruzado," equivalent to 1,000 cruzados. The monetary reform will be part of an anti-inflation package dubbed the "summer plan" by the Brazilian press. Officials said the plan was expected to include a cut in the number of ministries, which now total 27. The plan has been under examination for several weeks and officials bope it will be launched shortly. Inflacion in Brazil last year was a record 934 per cent, well up on the 1987 figure of 366 per

#### S. Korean overseas investments rise

SEOUL (AP) - Direct investment overseas by South Korean businesses last year rose 34.6 per cent to \$480 million from a year ago, the Bank of Korea has reported. The central bank did not say how much of the approved \$480 million, involving 253 projects, was actually invested overseas. Bank officials said local companies expanded their investment abroad to avoid mounting cost in South Korea resulting from the appreciation of the Korean currency and sharp wage hikes. They also noted that the government bas. encouraged investment to hold down the country's growing current account surplus, which hit a record \$14 billion last year. The United States topped the list of recipients of South Korean investment with \$230 million for 78 projects, followed by South East Asia whb \$75 million for 118 projects, Latin America with \$22 million for 22 projects and Europe with \$19 million for 18 projects, officials said. The cumulative total of South Korean direct. investment abroad was listed at \$1.59 billion for 872 projects on an approval basis at the end of 1988, the officials said.

#### Rautaruukki clinches \$7m plpeline deal

HELSINK1, Finland (AP) - The state-owned metals and mining if company, Rautaruukki, has announced that it bas won an order for over 100 kilometres of natural gas pipeline from a French-Turkisb joint venture. The pipeline will connect the natural gas network of Istanbul to the Soviet Union via Bulgaria. The value of the deal is 30 millinn marks (\$7.2 million). Raimo Raassina, managing directorof Rautaruukki's pipeline division, described the deal as a 'significant step for the company in the international pipeline trade." The company's total turnover in 1986 was 4.37 billion marks (just over \$1 billion).

#### Foreign investment in Taiwan drops

TAIPEI (AP) — The government approved \$1.18 billion worth of. foreign investment last year, a 17 per cent drop from 1987 caused by a sharp decline in U.S. investment, an official commission has reported. Japan led with \$445 million in investment, up three per cent from 1987, the Investment Commission said. The United States followed with \$161 million, down from a record \$446 million in 1987, the report said. Hong Kong poured in \$157 million worth of investments, a 13 per cent drop from 1987. Pan Shien-Jong, a section chief of the government's Industrial Development and Investment Centre, attributed the decline to the more than 40 per cent appreciation of the local currency against the U.S. dollar during the past three years. The rising Taiwan dollar has made U.S. investments on the island more expensive, Pan said. Increasing labour costs and frequent protests against environment polintion have also driven away potential foreign investors, he said. A worker in the manufacturing sector received an average monthly pay of 16,700 Taiwan dollars (\$595) last year, up 13 per cent from

**AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES** 

Central Bank official rates

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R1 - Following are the buying and selling rates for

leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on

the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

1.7660/70

1.8267/77

2.0625/35

1.5605/15

38.27/30

6.2250/2300

6.2485/2525

6.6675/6725

404.90/405.40

7.0600/50

125.90/126.00

1338/1339

1.1990/2000

484.0

Deutschemark

One U.S. dollar

One ounce of gold

French-franc 77.7
Japanese yen (for 100) 383.4
Dutch guilder 234.8
Swedish crown 77.4

ttalian lira (for 100) 36.2 36.4 Belgian franc (for 10) 126.5 127.1

U.S. dollar

Canadian dollar

Deutschemarks

Dutch guilders

Swiss francs

Belgian francs

French francs

Japanese yen

Swedish crowns

Danish crowns

U.S. dollars

Norwegian crowns ...

Italian lire

### Scandal stirs public furor in Israel

have taxpayers pay for wrote. his ironing.

The controversy came just days after Peres pushed through a \$600 million economic austerity plan that raised prices for basics such as milk and bread.

At issue was a report in the Out about the draft after the Haaretz newspaper that finance ministry planned to increase its budget by at least \$350,000 to

PRAGUE (AP) — Some of the

country's biggest industrial enter-

prises are plagued by huge de-ficits and will have to be rescued

under a consolidation plan, the communist daily Rude Pravo re-

The Skoda company in Pilsen

that makes nuclear reactors for

Soviet Bloc countries, the Skoda

car works in Mlada Boleslav and

the Vitkovice steel works are

among giant enterprises troubled

ported Tuesday.

OCCUPIED. JERUSALEM fund perks for Peres and his (AP) - Israeli legislators vowed aides. Almost \$90,000 of that sum Monday to grill the treasury over was allocated to Peres' personal office expenses after reports that services, such as ironing, catering Finance Minister Shimon Peres and photographs, the newspaper

> Finance ministry spokesman Avi Gil said Monday that Peres "didn't see the budget proposal, was not asked about it and didn't approve it.' Gil said that when Peres found

Haaretz publication, "he cancelled it immediately.

**Huge deficits said plaguing Czech industries** 

Thirty-eight major enterprises

have a total deficit of 15 billion

crowns (\$1.5 billion) while the

total for 134 other industrial con-

cerns is 37 billion crowns (\$3.7

billion), Rude Pravo reported.

Strougal disclosed last year that

about \$3.5 billion worth of

finished goods sitting unsold and

unwanted in Czechoslovak ware-

The daily newspaper blamed

Former premier Lubomir

Movement, said the ministry only backed away from the budget proposal Monday in response to the public outcry over the issue.

The latest budget proposal calls principle," Sarid said. for one mobile car telephone instead of three, and grants a senior aide a Ford Sierra instead of a Volvo, said Sarid.

"The other items, such as ironing and so on, will remain in the budget, but the expenses for the photographer will be halved from \$26,000 to \$13,000, Sarid said, But Yossi Sarid, a legislator for adding items like ironing were remarks.

Those stocks have prompted

liberal economists such as Walter

They won't make or break the state economy, but when everyone's talking about tightening the belt and austerity, it's a matter of

He said the new budget of luxury items would lotal \$34,000, one-tenth of the original figure. In addition to the personal items, the original \$35,000 figure was to cover services and overtime payments for Peres aides, Haaretz wrote.

Gil refused comment on Sarid's

ing to call for drastic restructuring

of heavy industry.

of the deficit, but said poor cen- Komarek of the Czechoslovak

tral planning also was to blame. Academy's Institute of Forecast-

COLOGNE (R) - West Germans, famed for the hard work that

spawned their post-war economic miracle, would rather relax today

than do their job, a Cologne University study has found. "Are the

Germans lazy" the mass-circulation newspaper Bild agonised in a front-page headline. A representative survey of 1,000 Germans by

the university found that 43 per cent felt at their best when they

were not working, compared to 27 per cent in 1962. In 1960, 60 per cent wanted to "achieve something" at work, but today only 43 per

cent bave that ambition. The survey also compared working habits

of some Western nations. Forty-three per cent of Germans worked

longer bours than required, compared to 68 per cent of Americans,

it said. Just 26 per cent of Germans always "give their best" at

work while 51 per cent of Americans do so.

'The Germans have become lazier'

### Ten Japanese banks to lend" \$5.1b for Nabisco buyout

TOKYO (AP) — Ten Japanese banks will lend a total of \$5.1 billion to U.S.-based Kohlberg Kravis Roberts and Co. (KKR) to help finance its leveraged buyout of RJR Nabisco Inc., a bank official said Tuesday.

The amount is about what earlier U.S. reports said KKR had expected from Japanese lending sources. It is reputedly the largest amount ever lent by Japanese

banks for a leveraged buyout. The official who provided the figure insisted on not being identified by name or bank, although

his bank is one of the 10. KKR needs \$25 billion for the buyout, which would be the most expensive in history. The company is seeking about \$14.5 billion in loans from banks around

the world. The majority of Japanese banks reported to bave approved loans by Jan. 6, the first deadline to be eligible for higher incentive returns, refused to comment on their lending to KKR.

Mitsubishi Bank confirmed it had notified KKR by Jan. 6 of its intention to offer a loan, but a bank official, speaking on condition that he not be named, declined to specify the amount. Officials at other banks said

they do not ordinarily provide details about their loan contracts. One banking source said:

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News reports have said 10 Japanese banks including Sanwa. Mitsubishi, Daiichi Kangyo, Fuji, Sumitomo, Japan Industrial Bank and Mitsui Trust Bank had notified KKR by Jan. 6 of their intention to offer loans for the

Each agreed to lend between \$350 million and \$600 million, with the total reaching an estimated \$5.15 billion, said the Nihon Keizai Shimbun, a leading economic newspaper.

In its Saturday edition, it said a few other Japanese banks, including the Bank of Tokyo, Taiyo Kobe Bank and Mitsubishi Trust Bank, were expected to approve loans and notify KKR by Jan. 17, the final deadline.

Participation of the second group would bring the total amount of Japanese loans to KKR to almost \$6 billion, Nihon Keizai said.

#### Bonn stops sales to Libya

BONN (R) - The Bonn government, rattled by U.S. allegations that West German companies belped Colonel Muammar Oadhafi huild a poison gas plant, said Tuesday it had ordered several firms to stop current deals with Libya.

The West German cahinet also agreed to oghten controls of exports to sensitive areas, including beavy fines and prison sentences of up to five years for businessmen violating laws.
Participation in the manufac-

ture of chemical or nuclear weapons by West Germans abroad will be banned outright. A senior government official said a probe into Imhausen-Chemie, a chemical concern named by the United States as involved in setting up the Libyan plant, had uncovered plans by other -firms for sales to the North African country.

main index to a record close for the second straight day and over 31,000 points for the first time. The Nikkei Index rose 328.12 to

HONG KONG — Heavy buying spurred by another record high m Tokyo pushed stocks to their second successive post-crash high. The Hang Seng Index rose 40.11 to 2,832.38.

consecutive session but closed off their highs after another day of active trading. The Straits Times Industrial Index rose 10.51 to

in moderate trading after the market opened lower. Associated

trading. Dealers attributed the weakness to light profit-taking and to interest rate fears which depressed prices early on. The Swiss index fell 3.3 to 963.7.

profit-taking and other factors.

LONDON — Early gains were pared in afternoon business, following a decline on Wall Street. By 1609 GMT the FISE 100 index was up 1.5 at 1,833.

after an early rise then a downswing, both related to futures programme activity. The Dow was down four at 2,195.

#### excess unsold stocks for the bulk by big deficits, the report said.

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### **WORLD STOCK MARKETS**

SYDNEY - Leading industrial stocks shone as the Australian share market continued to take heart from strong offshore trading. The All Ordinaries Index rose 11.8 to 1500.9. TOKYO - Sbare prices shot up on beavy buying, pushing the

SINGAPORE - Prices rose over a broad front for the fourth

BOMBAY — Prices overcame early profit-taking to close higher Cement rose 13 rupees to 339 and Gujarat Fertiliser 3.75 to 151.25. But Tata Steel eased five to 1,147.5.

FRANKFURT — Prices fell because of profit-taking and recent weaknesses in bond prices prompted by fears of higher domestic interest rates. The DAX Index fell 20.64 to 1,345.91. ZURICH — Prices closed easier but off their lows in moderate

PARIS - Prices ended lower, knocked off midday highs by

NEW YORK - Stocks were moderately lower in mid-morning

### Vatanen leads rally

BAMAKO, Mali (AP) — Fin- ahead of the Belgian. That gave land's Ari Vatanen moved into the Finn an overall margin of the overall lead - as expected of the Paris-Dakar rally Monday after capturing the 11th stage, a 379-kilometre leg from Timbuktu to Bamako m North Africa.

Vatanen had been battling Peugeot teammate Jacky Ickx of Belgium for the past week, both well ahead of the field.

Saturday Pengeot team chief Jean Todt, seeking to assure a team victory and to avoid a dangerous and unproductive competition between Ickx and Varanen, flipped a coin to decide the team leader. Ickx was leading then, but Vatanen won the toss, virtually handing him the victory, although the rally is not scheduled to end until Friday.

With Ickx easing up on the throttle, Vatanen won Monday's leg m 1 hour, 36 minutes, 49 seconds, more than 5 minutes

2:51. Third-placed Patrick Tambay of France in a Mitsubishi is almost three hours behind in the

In the motorcycle competition there was a new leader as Gilles. Lalay of France took advantage of a navigation mistake by Italy's Franco Picco.

Lalay, astride a Honda, finished fourth in Monday's stage behind Italy's Edi Oriolo on a

But Lalay went into the overall lead by more than eight minutes as Picco lost his way and gave up 22 minutes to the leader.

France's Stephane Peterhansel, who had won the three previous stages on his Yamaha, took a fall and damaged his shoulder but still managed to finish and hang on to fourth in the general stand-

#### Heysel trial nears its end

soccer fans charged with manslaughter in the Heysel stadium riots may boycott the closing stages of their trial in Belgium because of high travel costs, the chief defence attorney said

Sir Harry Livermore, the could be throwing away any chance of acquital and face stiffer penalties by staying away but could not afford the three return trips to Brussels ordered by the

presiding judge. defendants said many of the fans time off from their jobs.

lawyer will not be able to make closing arguments and when the any submissions oo his behalf," verdict is returned.

LIVERPOOL (AP) - British Livermore said. "This could result in them losing the case by default.

"If they don't attend, they would forefeit their bail and would be regarded as absent from the trial, and if found guilty the penalty would be more serious."

The Liverpool fans are accused of manslaughter in the deaths of 39 people, most of them supporters of the Italian club Juventus, in riots that hroke out before the European Cup final in Brussels almost four years ago.

The defendants have been The attorney for 15 of the 25 allowed to return to Britain while the trial continued on civil law were out of work, while others aspects, hut the judge has would be unable to take so much ordered them back for three dates - when the prosecution "If a defendant does not attend wraps up its case Jan. 16-18, without good reason, his defence when defence lawyers make their

#### GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN ANO OMAR SHARIF © 1988 Tribuna Media Services, Inc.

Both vulnerable, South deals, NORTH V K 10 8 4 WEST EAST 4 A 10 8 4 OAKJ 1694 5 72 SOUTH

The bidding: South West South North Press

Pass Opening lead: King of O From reading our columns, you might come to think that an expert declarer knows where every card is and never has to rely on guesswork. Not so. Every once in a while a hand comes along where, no matter what your level of skill, you are complete-

ly at sea. For instance, consider this hand from a team match. Both Souths arrived at a contract of four hearts after similar auctions.

North discounted his queen of dia-

THE BETTER HALF,

monds when he decided to bid only two hearts at his first turn, but he made up for that when his partner made a game try.

At both tables West took the first two tricks with high diamonds while East echoed to show an even num-ber of-cards in the suit by first playing the seven. West continued with the jack of diamonds.

At one table, declarer decided that, for his vulnerable overcall, West was more likely to hold the queen of hearts, so be chose to ruff with the eight in dummy. East overruffed and cashed the acc for the setting trick.

At the other table, declarer ressoned that, since West held six diamonds; he was likely to be short in hearts. As that might have persuaded him in finesse East for her majesty anyway, declarer opted to ruff with the king of trumps and then run the ten. When that won, the next round of trumps enabled declarer to pick up the queen and claim his contract.

Who was right? There's little to choose. However, we are a trifle more impressed by the latter argu-ment. Could it be because it proved to be right?

By Harris

HARRIS 1-22

#### Wimbledon to stamp on black market ticket sales

WIMBLEDON (AP) - Wimbledon declared war on ticket scalpers Monday in a move that could make it harder than ever for the average fan to attend the world's oldest Grand Stam tennis tourna-

Buzzer Hadingham, chairman of the All-England Lawn Tennis Club, said the black market that had sullied the image of the grasscourt tournament in recent years would be fought with a "white market" of tickets from the club's investors.

None of the tickets purchased from debenture holders, who can buy one centre court seat through the two-week tournament for each share they own in the club, would go to the general public, thousands of whom line up for hours in hopes of getting standing-room-only admission, Hadingham said. Instead, he said, the tickets

would be resold to the 44 firms that stage corporate hospitality tents at the tournament. Uolike in most of the United

States, scalping is legal in Britain and Hadingham said there still was nothing to stop debenture holders from selling to scalpers. In past years, some debenture tickets had made their way to scalpers - known here as ticket touts - who sold them to anyone who could come up with the price, often hawking them out-

side the All-England club's gates. That would have to eod, Hadingham said. "The ticket touts are the one undesirable aspect of Wimhledon," Hadingham said, "This is one way in which we can cut

down their supply." Ticket agencies said the move would have little affect.

"It doesn't stop the black market, it just makes the hlack market more expensive," said Bill Davis of Pall Mall tickets in Central London.

Hadingham said a high proportion of Wimhledoo's 2,100 debenture holders favoured an official market for disposing of unwanted

Under the experiment, Wimbledon will resell surplus tickets at the same price they were purchased for hy the debenture holders, plns a 10 per ceot service charge. Prices will range from \$109 for the first two days to \$760 for the meo's championship.

-Normal ticket prices for centre court range from \$16.29 to \$65.16. The difference between the face value and the price they pay is the debenture holders' investment.

Of 67 tickets retrieved by Wimbledon authorities from touts operatiog at last year's tournament, only four came from debenture holders. The majority were from a public lottery and county tennis associations.

Of 12,472 seats and standingroom spaces oo centre court, 14 per cent go to debenture holders, 9 per cent to hospitality firms and 52 per cent to the general public through the lottery and other controlled plans. The remaining 25 per cent go to foreign tennis associations, schools, players and the news media.



A question of climate: Henri Leconte blamed his round defeat on the sweltering Australian summer Tuesday.

#### **Top seed Leconte exits Open** Pat Cash of Australia and world

SYDNEY (R) — Top seed Henri Leconte of France found the going too bot Tuesday and was bundled out in the first round of the New South Wales tennis championships by unseeded Swede Peter Lundgren.

The Frenchman, number nine in the world, blamed Sydney's scorching sun for his 6-4, 6-3 defeat by Lundgren, ranked 66th.

just come from the winter in Europe and I needed to be prepared," he told reporters. Leconte, 25, said he was not fully fit and was too fat after Christmas festivities but intended using the rest of the week practising to prepare for next week's Australian Open.

Lundgren, 23, who has beaten

number one Mats Wilander of Sweden, said it seemed he had a feel for winning against high-ranking players." I'm going to beat some of the players I should

Leconte, who won the New South Wales open in 1985, said: "I got a good start, he felt the ressure and I was serving well."
But Lundgren powered a high-"It was very bot for me ... I'd er percentage of his first serves in, with 11 aces against Leconte's six, outweighing the French-man's classier net play and fore-

hand passes. Leconte's elimination means third seed Aaron Krickstein of the United States is the only one of the top four seeds left in the

West Germany's Christian Saceanu defeated second seed Andrei Chesnokov 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 while Jonas Svenssnn, seeded fourth, was bundled out by Oliver

Delaitre of France Monday.

In the women's singles: ninth seed Hana Mandlikova came back from losing her first set in her npening match to scrape home against Britain's Jo Durie,

1983 New South Wales open champion, 3-6, 7-5, 7-6, (7-4). The win broke a drought for the Czechoslavakia-born Australian — it was her first since her return from the hamstring injuries that had plagued her since last year's Wimbledon.

and it's just under my belt," she said. "I think I won it with guts

"I'm glad I finally won a match and that's important."

### Johnson teammate plays

ban down TORONTO (R) - Mark McKoy, Canada's top burdler, said he is not troubled by his two-year suspension from international competition and is planning a career as a real estate

"I don't really care what they do, It's oo hig deal. I'm a real estate agent now," McKoy said in an interview from his Toronto

bome Sunday night.
"If that's what they want, that's what they'll get. Sooner or later you have to stop running anyway. For me, it's sooner than later,

McKoy, who finished seventh in the 110-metre hurdles at the Seoul Olympics, was suspended Sunday by the Canadian track and field association (CTFA) for leaving South Korea without running the 4 x 100 metre relay.

McKoy, who left Seoul two days after training partner Ben Johnson failed his drug test, claimed he was too depressed to continue after the doping scandal broke.

The 27-year-old hurdler has been hanned from international competition as a member of the Canadian team for two years and is suspended from domestic events for one year.

CTFA president Paul Dupre said that McKoy could seek a permit after one year to compete internationally as an indepeo-McKoy, who was born io

Guyana hut grew up in Eogland before moving to Canada in 1974, had been a member of the Canadian team for II years: He won the 110-metre hurdles gold medal at the 1986 Commonwealth Games. McKoy, a friend of Johnson's for

10 years, resumed training with the disgraced sprinter last November despite Johnson's two year han from competition after being stripped of his Olympic 100 metres gold medal for steroid

McKoy had trained with Johnson's coach Charlie Francis from 1980 to 1983 and returned to the Francis camp in 1987.

### Expert calls for calm in war against drugs

LONDON (R) - The unfortunate athlete had tested positive for an illegal sedative found in a common cough syrup. His national federation was ready to ban him for life.

But in a tiny office, little wider than a hammer thrower's turning circle, one of the world's leading experts on drug misuse was far from convinced.

Professor Arnold Beckett dropped the report on to his desk and shook his bead. 'This is

madness," he said. "You've got to be strong where you need to be strong if it's a really flagrant drug misuse. Yet you've got to he flexible in these fringe areas. It's the only way to

operate." A leading lieutenant in the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) war on drug abuse in sport, Beckett is campaigning for calm from over-zealous authorities in the wake of the Ben Johnson scandal at the Seoul Olympics.

We tell federations not to go overboard with over-the-counter medicines," he told Reuters in an interview in his office at London I Iniversity.

"We advise a ban of three months. It's a slap on the wrist. If it goes on, then you act."

Calls for sport's doping offen-ders to be banned for life have grown since Johnson was stripped of the Olympic 100 metres gold after traces of the anabolic steroid stanozolol were found in his body in Seoul.

The Canadian world champion and record holder has since started a two-year suspension but IOC medical commission memher Beckett would welcome him

back to athletics in 1990. He remains a committed opponent of those who seek to have Johnson and other offenders barred for life for a first offence. Beckett is urging federations to take the IOC's "flexible

approach" to punishing offenders who fall foul of the drug laws. And he visibly winces at talk of life hans for first offenders." It may be all right if you can prove that the individual knowingly took the action," he said. "But to

be banned for life because of somebody else's action... I don't think that's the right way to command public respect and sup-He added: "I believe any con-

trol mechanism in society must be based upon informed opinion support - that you're seen to be just and fair."

"We've got to look at the situation and attempt to protect. We ought to aim to try and deal

we will act against anybody." Beckett is quick to concede

said that if we have the evidence

that that the drug cheats in sport will never be beaten. "I don't envisage drug free sport - just like I don't envisage a drug free society," he said. But he claims the authorities have the technology and the techniques to contain

Eradicating the use of anabolic steroids, usually taken out of season to promote muscle prowth, has become Beckett's main objective with year-round random testing bis main weapon.

"Random testing will play a key role, especially in the steroid field," said the founder and former director of London's drug control and teaching centre, who also sits on the International with those who are pushing this Amateur Athletic Federation problem. The IOC have always (IAAF) medical committee.

#### SPORTS IN BRIEF

#### Sabres 6, Red Army 5

BUFFALO (AP) - Ken Preistlay scored at 2:20 of overtime to give the Buffalo Sabres a 6-5 victory over Central Red Army Monday night. Priestlay's game-winner came after Phil Housley skated end-to-end and sent a pass in front of the Red Army oct that Preistlay; trailing the play, shot past goaltender Sergei Mylnikov. The Red 'Army finished its seven-game National Hockey League tour with a 4-2-1 record.

#### Hall of fame Terry dead at 90

JACKSONVILLE (AP) - Hall of famer Bill Terry, the last player to bat .400 in the National League, died Monday at the age of 90 of oatural causes. Terry died in Jacksonville after several mouths of failing health. He had been living there since 1949. Terry, who spent all 14 of his major-league seasons with the New York Giaots, hatted . 401 in 1930. The famed first baseman had a lifetime average of .341 and drove in 100 or more runs for six disecutive seasons, starting in 1921. He tinished 1,078 RB1.

#### Players must wear gear against injuries, AIDS

ROTTERDAM (AP) — Players at the inaugural indoor soccer world championship must wear protective gear against injuries and the deadly disease AIDS throughout the 11-day tournament, organisers said Monday. Although indoor soccer is a gentle game compared to the outdoor version, each player from the 16 participating nations has to wear protective shin gear to limit open, hleeding wounds and leg injuries. "Such gear will avoid open injuries that cause infections," including AIDS, said Sepp Blatter, secretary general of FIFA, the governing body of world soccer.

#### Coach predicts 'short and stocky' future BELGRADE (R) - A leading coach in France believes soccer has

a short future. Smaller players will be used increasingly to fill key positions, said Tomislav Ivie, the Yugoslav coach of French first division side Paris Saint Germain, "Very soon ideal players, especially in defence, will be only around 1.60 metres tall," Ivic said in a coaching lecture Monday. "They can move better, they are faster and they can control the ball better because their centre of gravity is low." Ivic, who coached several top Yugoslav teams before moving to Dutch side Ajax in the 1970s and more receotly to Portugal's Porto, said modern soccer created a lot of powerful and fast players. "Gradually they will all tend to have similar physical characteristics and eventually the shorter ones will benefit. The pattern is already widespread in most top European teams," he said. "It's only a question of time before all players are short and stocky."

#### Tyson lost track of \$10 million

LAS VEGAS (AP) — World heavyweight boxer Mike Tysoo has portrayed himself as so confused about his finances that he didn't know if a \$10-million cheque for fighting Michael Spinks ever was deposited in his account. "I can't remember. There's money coming in — millions — I can't count that high," he said. "I wouldn't even know if someone took it out." The heavyweight thampion admitted he didn't know whether he could ehampion admitted he didn't know whether he could prove his allegations that Cayton was withholding money from him, and said he didn't know where much of his money went. "There's a lot of cash flowing around there," the champion said. "I wish I could take my records out and slap them on the table and see where it went." Tyson said he didn't remember many of the early opponeots in his professional career and couldn't recall most of the purses he had been paid for the fights. the purses he had been paid for the fights.

#### HOROSCOPE **NOT RECEIVED**







#### Mutt'n' Jeff

**Peanuts** 



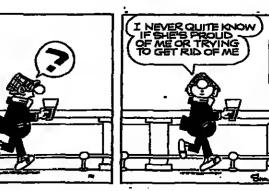


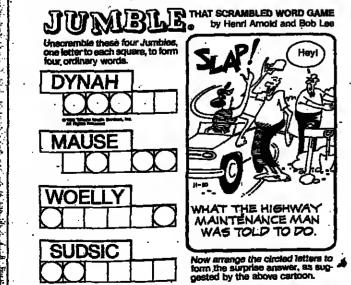




#### **Andy Capp**







"I deserve a Nobel Prize! If

everyone in the world was as lazy

as me, there'd be no more wars!"

(Answers tomorrow)-Jumbles: AISLE COACH FORGER DURESS Answer: What that math whiz who rose to the top of the firm ended up as-THE FIGURE HEAD

### Sri Lanka's state of emergency to end soon

COLOMBO (R) -- Sri Lanka's five-year-old state of emergency will end Sunday and political detainees found to have no evidence against them will be released as soon as possible, President Ranasinghe Premadasa said Tuesday.

officials in Colombo that the continuing the campaign. emergency, in force since May 1985 to tackle Tamil and Sinhalese guerrilla violence, will not be renewed after it expires

Officials said the decision was taken because of deelining violence in southern areas where the People's Liberation Front (JVP), a group of radical youths of the majority Sinhalese community, is trying to overthrow the govern-

They said in the north and east Indian troops trying to end a Tamil separatist drive had taken denied the allegations.

The president told a meeting of the sting out of a rebel group

A security official said most of Sri Lanka's 40,000-strong army would return to barracks once the emergency ended. The emergency gave security forces almost unlimited powers.

We will only be able to help the police in security work whereas under emergency laws the army conducts its own operations." he said.

Opposition groups have accused the security forces of killing or harming suspects during searches for rebels. Authorities have

Premadasa said the police strength of more than 26,000 men would be doubled to take over security duties from the security

The security official said milit-

ary operations were reduced in

the south since last month's pres-

idential poll because of less JVP

seems to have created an atmos-

phere of peace in Sri Lanka," he

The election of Premadasa

activity.

He ordered officials to speed up investigations against political detainees. "If there is no evidence, detainees should be released immediately," he said.

The detainees, many in jail for more than three months without trial, are suspected of involvement in Tamil or Sinhalese rebel

The government said more Front.

than 600 JVP suspects were released last week at Premadasa's requesi. Officials said there are another 1,600 detainees, mostly JVP suspects.

#### 5 charged

Five suspected Sri Lankan rebels went on trial Tuesday for the attempted murder 17 months ago of former President Junius Javewardene and the killing of two people in parliament.

A junior minister and an official were killed when two grenades were lobbed into a room in parliament during a meeting Aug. 18, 1987 of the ruling United National Party.

Jayewardene, who chaired the

meeting, was unhurt but five ministers were seriously wounded in the attack, blamed by police on the Marxist People's Liberation

# 450 Cubans quit Angola

FUNDA (AP) — Cuban soldiers prepared to begin withdrawing Angola and Cuba have asked from Angola Tuesday as part of an agreement intended to bring peace to Southern Africa and independence to Namibia after U.N.-sponsored elections.

On Monday, children thrust flowers into the hands of officers and soldiers as they said goodbye to the first of 3,000 Cuhans scheduled to leave by April 1.

Defence Minister Pedro Maria Tonha told the men assembled at a military training camp: "Don't ever forget Angola. hecause you fought and died here."

The first 450 Cubans depart Tuesday, in a symbolic airlift, under terms of the agreement mediated by the United States and signed Dec. 22 by Angola, Cuba and South Africa. The rest of the troops are expected to

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica (AP)

- The government of Costa

Rica Monday said a Central

American peace summit sche-

duled for Jan. 15-16 has been

postponed. New dates were

a meeting of presidents,"

Foreign Minister Rodrigo

Madrigal Nieto said at a news

conference in the capital of

San Jose. He said the presi-

dents of Honduras, El Salva-

dor and Costa Rica had agreed

negotiated, adjusting the agen-

das of the presidents and of the

Earlier Monday, the govern-

ments of El Salvador and

Nicaragua said the summit

should be held as scheduled

foreign ministers," he said.

"The new date will he

"There definitely will not be

not specified.

to the suspension.

the United Nations to pay the estimated \$800-million cost of sending the estimated 50,000 Cubans home from Angola.

Not included in the agreement are rebels fighting Angola's Mar-xist government with U.S. and South African support, and the South-West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), a guerrilla group opposing Scuth African control of Namibia.

Soldiers from Cuha arrived in July 1975 to support the government, which won control after independence from Portugal, in its battle with rehels of the National Union for the Total

Independence of Angola. The United States has said it will continue military assistance

osed by Costa Rican President

However, Salvadoran

Foreign Minister Ricardo

Acevedo said it could only be

held if presidents of all the

look for a consensus among

the presidents and consensus

means unanimity because you

can't have a summit with only

Acevedo said. "We should be

flexible and look for new

Arias suggested Friday that

the meeting be postponed to allow U.S. President-elect

George Bush, who takes office

Jan. 20, time to formulate a

Central American policy.
Acevedo said Salvadoran

President Jose Napoleon

three or four presidents

We should negotiate and

Oscar Arias.

countries agree.

dates.'

the rebels.

Moracen Limonta said the departure was possible because South allow independence in Namibia. tive elections.

"The problem with UNITA is of the South Africans.

Angola and South Africa

South Africa captured Namibia

his proposal was being submit-

capital, President Daniel Orte-

ga telephoned Arias Sunday to

express "his concern about the

postponement of the meet-

Ortega said last week that

postponing the meeting "could mean the death" of the Cen-

A Costa Rican foreign

ministry official called the

The Guatemalan govern-

ment also has said it opposed

Honduras bas not com-

mented. Honduran President

Jose Azcona Hoyo travelled

Monday to Washington and

was to meet Tuesday with

tral American peace t

statement "out of line."

delaying the meeting.

Ortega's press office said

In Managua, the Nicaraguan

ted to all five presidents.

to UNITA until the government of President Jose Eduardo Dos and controlled it under a League Santos agrees to negotiate with of Nations mandate. The U.N. General Assembly ended the Brigadier General Rafael mandate in 1966, but South Africa had refused to leave.

All but a token South African Africa agreed to withdraw from force is to withdraw from the southern Angola, where its forces territory hy Nov. 1, when Namipursued SWAPO guerrillas, and bia is to hold its first free legisla-

Some questions remain about among the Angolans them- how 70 military and 20 civilian he said, standing with U.N. observers will monitor the other officers on the parade departure of Cuban troops from a ground. "We came here because country 14 times the size of Portugal

General Ferreira Gomes said agreed to a ceasefire in southern he would rely on the "good Angola Aug. 8, and South Afri-word" of the Cuhans and Angocan troops withdrew into lans, but another military observer said privately his mission is "to count heads."

Acevedo said Jan. 29 and

30. or Feb. 20, were being

considered as alternate dates.

tory meeting should be held as

scheduled Tuesday and that a

foreign ministers' meeting

could be scheduled for Jan. 17

Arias authored the Central

American peace plan the five

presidents signed in Guatema-

la City on Aug. 7. Its plan calls

for greater democracy, an end

to civil wars, political amnes-

ties and an end to the use of

one country by rebels fighting

The plan has been stalled

since the presidents last met in

January 1988 in Costa Rica.

Arias was awarded the 1988

Nobel Peace Prize for his work

in another.

on the plan.

He said a technical, prepara-

# Costa Rica says summit is off

WASHINGTON (R) - Lawyers for former White House aide Oliver North said again Monday they needed access to classified documents for bis defence even though the major charges against him in the Iran-contra case are being dropped.

Attorneys Brenden Sullivan and Barry Simon told Gesell they still needed 300 elassified documents to defend against other charges pending against their client, including lying to Congress and accepting an illegal gift.

Independent counsel Lawrence Walsh said last week he wanted to drop charges of conspiracy to defraud the government and theft of government property by diverting funds from the sale of U.S. arms to Iran to help the contras fighting the Nicaraguan government.

Walsh said he was taking the action because the administration would not disclose classified information needed in the case on national security grounds. U.S. Judge Gerhard Gesell, at

**Red Cross worker killed** 

GENEVA (AP) — A local Red Cross worker in

Uganda was shot and killed Monday when a group

of gunmen attacked a relief convoy, the Interna-

tional Committee of the Red Cross said. A

delegate of the all-Swiss ICRC, Juerg Buehler,

their future. a hearing Monday, put off granttwo major charges until Attorney General Richard Thornburgh

burgh has said be approves drop-

ping the charges. Jan. 31, but Gesell said he might have to delay it if the procedural

questions are not resolved hy Walsb said he was reducing the number of witnesses he intended to call from 87 to 40 and told

Gesell he hoped to complete the

**WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF** 

fence would take two to three months.

er other issues.

The trial is scheduled to start question the authenticity of government documents could add two months to the trial and chal-

Several demonstrators mar-



PEOPLES RIGHTS: Áfricans at Beijing Languages Institute boycotted classes last week to protest the racial attacks on African students in China.

### Soviets to quit Hungary

BUDAPEST (Agencies) -Soviet troops are to begin with-drawing from Hungary within weeks, Hungarian Communist Party leader Karoly Grosz was

quoted as saying Tuesday.

Defence Minister Colonel General Ferenc Karpati said in an unusual noontime interview with Hungarian television that preparations for the withdrawal of 'major military units,'' including an armoured division, was nearing completion.

He gave no firm date for the start of the pullout. The state news agency MTI

quoted Grosz as telling the Japanese newspaper Nihon Keizai Shimbun that the pullout "is to commence within weeks." The Soviet Union has some 62,000 troops stationed in Hungary, according to the Commun-

ist Party daily Nepszabadsag. Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorhaehev announced in a speech to the United Nations Dec. 7 that the Soviet Union

North case

momentum

picks up

50,000 troops from Hungary, East Germany, and Czechoslovakia over the next two years. Five-thousand Soviet tanks are

also to be withdrawn. Hungary, which like Poland has announced major cuts in its defence spending this year, gave an enthusiastie welcome to Gorbachev's announcement. Karpati said then the withdrawal would affect about a quarter of the Soviet troops stationed in Hun-

#### Hungary's opposition

Hungary's parliament Tuesday opened dehate on new legislation to pave the way for a multiparty system and legalise political demonstrations in this Communist country.
Justice Minister Kalman Kule-

sar told a packed session the reforms would give the people "a hasic right which is not the gift of the state.

"The modernisation of Hunga-

would unilaterally withdraw some rian society cannot develop further within the framework of an authoritarian political system.' he added.

The proposed law of association would give private citizens the right to form political parties while a separate hill on the right of assembly would limit the power of the authorities to ban public demonstrations.

Hungary's Communist Party, the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party (HSWP), has held a monopoly of power since 1948. Until recently public demonstrations were banned.

If passed, the law of assembly would give citizens only the right in principle to form political parties. An additional law must be passed before they are able to exercise that right.

Deputy Justice Minister Geza Kilenyi was quoted Tuesday hy the trade union daily Nepszava as saying the draft of this additional law would be finalised by mid-Fehruary.

Oliver North and family: the secret account was to provide for

prosecution's case in six to eigh ing Walsh's motion to drop the weeks. Simon said North's de-

submits an affidavit that.
submits an affidavit that he supports the action. The supports the action. The

He said the defence's plans to lenges over members of the jury could cause further delay.

ched outside the courtroom urging Gesell not to allow the charges to be dropped.

#### rather than delayed, as prop-Duarte had advised Arias that President Reagan and Bush. Thousands demand change in Yugoslavia

thousand workers and university students staged a demonstration Tuesday in the capital of the southern Yugoslav Republic of Montenegro, demanding the ouster of the region's Communist leadership, the State Tanjug news agency reported.

A similar protest last October in Titograd was violently broken up hy police and hrief emergency measures were proclaimed throughout the republic to prevent an escalation of disturbances.

Tanjug said about 7,000 flagwaving protesters gathered in front of the Montenegrin parliament building and chanted Tuesday: "We want resignations" and

BELGRADE (AP) - Several ded responsibility of the Montenegrin leaders for using force during the Oct. 7-8 demonstra-

"Who dares to beat the workers," the crowd shouted, according to Tanjug.
The Octoher unrest, in which

at least ten people were injured when police used tear gas and rubber truncheons to break up the crowds, triggered one of the worst political crises in Yugoslavia since World War II.

This was followed by warnings by Yugoslav President Raif Dizdarevic that unspecified emergency measures would be imposed throughout the country should the disturbances continue.

Tuesday's demonstration was "the people are hungry." led by workers of the Radoje tion currently
The angry crowd also demanDakic machine tool factory, who 250 per cent.

went on strike to demand the

resignations. Following protests last year, the Montenegrin government, chiefly responsible for economic matters, submitted its resignation, while the Communist leadership, in charge of formulating policies, failed to do so.

At the time, the Montenegrin leadership, with the support of the country's northern regions, accused followers of Serhia's hardline Communist chief Slobodan Milosevic of attempting to stage a coup in Titograd, allegedly in order to bring Montenegro politically closer to Serhia. Yugoslavia has been faced with

its worse social and economic crisis in history, with annual inflation currently hovering at around



# mandate

dent-elect Bush claimed Monday that his seven-million-vote margin of victory in the election represented a mandate for his policies on issues raised during the long and bitter campaign.

"I think talk about an issueless, mandate-less election in unfair to the American people, Bush said.

dent John Kennedy said "a majority of only one vote would still be a mandate. "And in 1988 I think a majority of almost seven million votes - a

four to one majority in the states and the electoral college - is a mandate too," he added.

This was Bush's clearest claim to a mandate since his Nov. 8

was injured in the attack between the town of Soroti and Amuria in eastern Uganda, an ICRC statement said. He was later flown to hospital in Nairohi, Kenya, and was said to be out of danger. The Ugandan Red Cross worker, Michael Egabu, a passenger in the car Buehler was driving, died on the spot, the 1CRC said. Marjolaine Martin, a spokeswoman at the organisation's Geneva headquarters, said activities in the region were suspended after the incident but were expected to resume shortly. She said the gunmen, whose exact number was not reported, apologised to another ICRC delegate in the three-vehicle convoy and said the attack was a mistake. The convoy, which was bringing relief supplies to displaced people, was clearly marked with the organisation's emblem, the ICRC said.

#### 6 killed in Natal

JOHANNESBURG (R) - A mob armed with clubs, spears and a shotgun killed five people. including two in their 60s, in black factional strife in South Africa's Natal province, police said Tuesday. The killings Monday were in Shongweni, one of dozens of black townships torn by violence which has killed more than 1,000 people in the past two years. A sixtb person, a 17-year-old girl, was stabbed to death near the Natal provincial capital of Pietermaritzburg, police added in a brief daily summary of political unrest. Most of the Natal violence is the result of a territorial power struggle between supporters of the Zulu movement in Inkatha and the more left-wing United Democralic Front. Repeated peace initiatives have failed to quell the violence.

#### Greenpeace protest landing strlp

BONN (AP) — Ahout 20 Greenpeace activists dressed as penguins demonstrated in front of the French embassy Monday to protest the building of a landing strip at a French research station in the Antarctic. The environmentalists charged that the project, at the Dumont D'Urville station, is Astrero said.

damaging the ecology of the region and threatens the hahitat of thousands of sea hirds and penguins. Other Greenpeace activists have staged protests at the site and have attempted to bloc construction efforts. A Greenpeace statement released in West Germany said protesters had been roughed up by French officials at the site. The group is demanding an immediate construction halt.

#### **Bush may attend Hirohito funeral**

WASHINGTON (R) — George Bush may make his first foreign trip as president to attend the funeral of Japanese Emperor Hirohito, a senior aide hinted Monday. Craig Fuller was asked by reporters if Bush would attend the funeral of Hirohito, who died of cancer Saturday at the age of 87. Fuller told reporters with a smile there had not been a final decision yet but added: "I would expect you would have a foreign trip." Hirohito's funeral is due to be held Feb. 24. Bush, a World War II fighter pilot shot down in action against Japanese forces in the Pacific, will be inaugurated as president Jan. 20. Invitations have been sent to the more than 160 countries with which Japan has diplomatie relations. They are to reply by Jan. 24.

#### 2 detained after grenade blast

MANILA (AP) - Two people were detained for questioning in the grenade attack on a weekend crowd attending a basketball tournament in which at least 13 people were killed and 89 others injured, the military said Tuesday. The military quoted Major Jaime Ponce, the Philippine constabulary spokesman in Cotabato, as saying no charges had been filed against the pair. The two were picked up after the assailants hurled two grenades at a crowd of about 1,000 people attending a hasketball award ceremony in the remote town of Esperanza, about 960 kilometres south of Manila. Ponce did not identify the two, nor give any reason for the attack. Manila newspapers said many of the dead were children, but gave no figures. Their dispatches were based on radio reports from the area, which has no telephones. Sergeant Joven Astrero of the constabulary office in Cotabato said the tournament had just endedand the town mayor, Romulo Latog Sr., was awarding trophies when the blasts occurred. Latog and his son, Romulo Jr., were among the injured,

#### **Protective mother** loses appeal

WASHINGTON (AP) -

mother jailed since August 1987 for refusing to disclose the whereabouts of her daughter, whom she says was sexually abused hy the child's father, lost a supreme court appeal Monday. The justiees, without comment, let stand a contempt citation against Dr. Elizaheth Morgan, a plastic surgeon. Morgan, 41, was imprisoned in August 1981 for defying a judicial order that she allow her daughter, Hilary, then 5, to spend a two-week unsupervised visit with Dr. Eric A. Foretich. Foretich is Hilary's father and Morgan's former hushand. Morgan sent the child into hiding-to protect her, she said, from sexual ahuse hy Foretich, who has denied ahusing his daughter. Morgan has been held in civil contempt, imposed to coerce someone into complying with a court order. The citation requires imprisonment for an indefinite period. In her supreme court appeal, Morgan said her rights were violated because the judge conducted much of the bearing that led to the contempt citation in private. The judge, Herbert J. Dixon, said he was trying to protect Hilary from public disclosure of the details of her father's alleged sexual abuse. Many of the specific charges were made public in a separate suit against Foretich by Morgan. Dixon ruled in 1986 that Morgan failed to prove Foretich had ahused Hilary. He said there was equal evidence on both sides of the case. The indge permitted hrief supervised visits for the father, and in August 1987 granted Foretich a two-week unsupervised visit that led Morgan to send her daughter into hiding,

#### Columbo is back

NEW YORK (AP) - Peter Falk will return to television as "Columbo," the American Broadcasting Company (ABC) has announced. Falk made the rumpled detective a housebold name in the 1970s, and ABC television announced last year that he bad signed on for a revival of the series. The new "Columbo" series was to have begun in the fall, but the writers' strike delayed production.

NASHVILLE (AP) — William

#### William Hurt transforms

Hurt, who has spent the past decade racking up movie successes, says he is in the middle of a transformation like the character he portrays in his latest film, The Accidental Tourist." "I am ready for a fuller. more complete relationship with people." Hurt said in an interview with the Sunday Tennessean. "It doesn't worry me so much for people to find out who I am." Hurt, who has gained a reputation as a reticent interviewee, said he had come a long way from the brooding introvert he was a few years ago. He also said he stopped drinking two years ago. "So many things were right about this film, he said, giving his relationship with Director Lawrence Kasdan credit for some of his satisfaction: The two also worked together on "The Big Chill." In "The Accidental Tourist," which also stars Kathleen Turner and Geena Davis, Hurt plays a travel writer whose world comes apart when his 12-year-old son dies and his marriage collapses. His life is restored through his relationship with a dog trainer, played by

#### \$50 million suit against Pan Am

NEW YORK (R) — The father

of one of the victims of the Pan Am airliner bombing has filed a \$50 million lawsuit against the U.S. airline, saying lax security led to his son's death, his lawyer said Saturday. Cincinnati-based lawyer Stanley Chesley said the suit was filed in Detroit Thursday on behalf of petrol station owner Nazir Jaafar, whose 20-year-old son Khalid was killed in the crash of flight 103. The Boeing 747 fell on the Scottish town of Lockerbie on the scotts a town of Lockernellast week, killing all 259 people aboard. Eleven people on the ground were also presumed dead. Jaafar is seeking \$15 million in compensatory damages and \$35 million in punitive damages in what is believed the first suit brought against Pan Am in con-nection with the tragedy. The case would\_seek to-prove that tighter security at Pan Am would have prevented the crash, the lawyer said in a telephone interview from Cincinnati Jastar, 1 U.S. citizen who was a lawyer in Lebanon, owns a service station near Detroit His son, who attended a local technical college, was returning from boliday in Europe... 100 mg 200 m 100 mg 200 mg 

### **88 strain on Communist** Party — Gorbachev

MOSCOW (R) — Kremlin chief Mikhail Gorbachev said Monday that changes in Soviet society last year were a hig strain on the Communist Party and more

trying times may be ahead. But the Soviet leader said the efforts of the party and society bad placed the country on the proper course and translated his perestroika reform programme

mto reality. 'Now we can speak about real perestroika," he said at a meeting of the Moscow city party committee.

"1988 was a year of great lessons, great innovations ...breakthroughs in thoughts and actions," Gorbachev said in remarks carried on the Soviet television evening news bulletin.

"All that placed a huge strain on the work of the party and all our people to manage the situation. We must say that for the additional joy, but I think that critical situation.

first nme, all political institutions were tested," he said.

"I think the process will conlinue and be even stronger this year, and we must be ready for that." he added.

Gorhachev said a two-day meeting of the Communist Party's ruling Politburo held just before the New Year bad speni many hours discussing the events

He noted that in his televised New Year's address Jan. t he bad told the Soviet people that all was not rosy and that they would have to work to promote economic and political change, democracy and openness in society.

"I hope you noted I tried to be maximally objective and truthful. In this holiday moment, the New Year, it was still necessary to tell people about reality," he said. "Maybe it didn't cause any

the truth is the highest satisfaction for our people."

Kremlin leader acknowledged that shortages and other difficul-ties in daily Soviet life were still making themselves felt despite the massive revamp of the economy which is under way.

tinued pursuing his reforms. The Moscow city party committee met a day before a plenum of the Communist Party central committee.

coming elections to a new Soviet parliament that is a major part of Gorbachev's political reform programme. On Saturday, the government's

It is expected to discuss forth-

In his New Year's speech, the

But he promised change for the better would come if people con-

council of ministers plans to meet to discuss the economy, which Gorhachev has declared is in a



for policies WASHINGTON (R) - Presi-

In a pep talk to transition workers and advisers. Bush appeared trying to huitd public support for programmes he will present to the Democratic-controlled Congress after he is sworn in Jan. 20.

In 1960, he noted, then Presi-

election victory over Democrat Michael Dukakis